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MP aims to shoot down long-gun bill

PARLIAMENT Conservative MP Candice Hoeppner says she is close to having enough opposition support to kill the long-gun registry in a vote on her private member's bill today.

A parliamentary vote in favour of Bill C-391 on second reading today won't make it law, but will send it to the next stage of legislative approval and make it that much more difficult to derail at a later stage.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News on the Move

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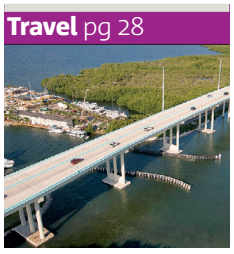
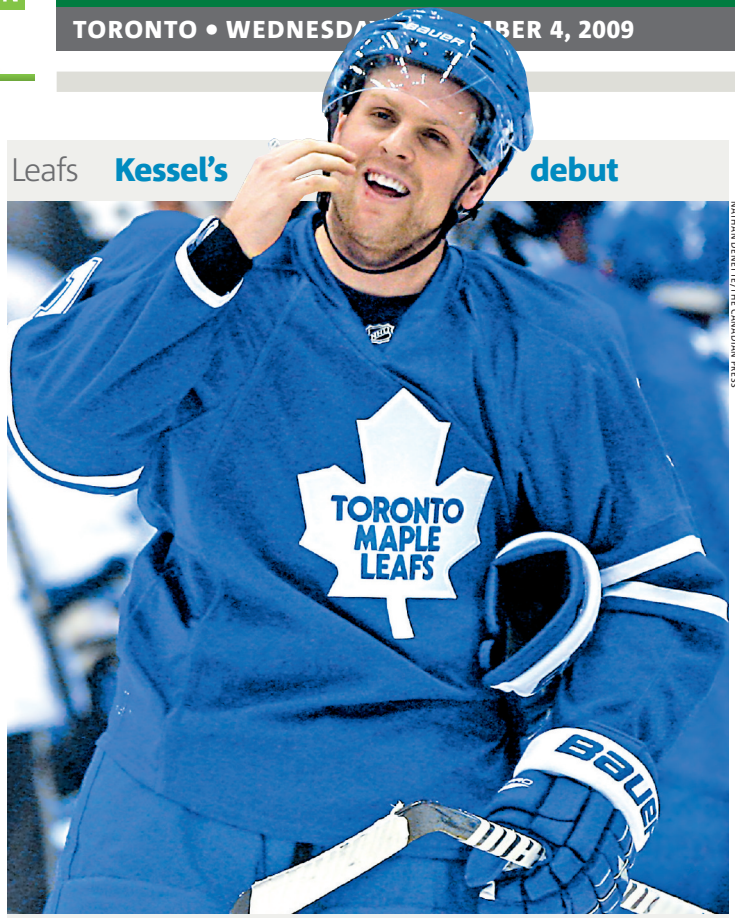


Travel pg 28

Florida's scenic roads

On the web
Visit metronews.ca for news updates

Leafs **Kessel's debut**



NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto Maple Leafs forward Phil Kessel smiles last night after taking a huge hit against the Tampa Bay Lightning during the first period at the Air Canada Centre. In his debut with the Leafs, Kessel had 10 shots on goal, including a number of good scoring opportunities. The Lightning beat the Leafs 2-1 in overtime. For a game recap, see metronews.ca/sports.

A step behind

Watchdog's review blasts emergency preparedness

Public Safety Canada, the agency charged with co-ordinating the federal response to threats such as the H1N1 flu, has yet to complete its emergency plan, the auditor general says.

Two years after Parliament gave the department responsibility for emergency management leadership, the formal plan has yet to be finished and approved.

There is growing political and public anger over H1N1, as thousands flock to overwhelmed clinics for flu shots — but there's no overall federal plan for emergencies, be they pandemics, floods, blackouts or terror attacks.

In the latest of her periodic reports to Parliament, auditor general Sheila Fraser said yesterday Public Safety is supposed to ensure that federal departments work together in emergencies.

Instead, the department is still drafting the policies and rules that would define what it's supposed to do and how it's supposed to do it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fraser

Plenty of things need to be fixed, AG report finds

Highlights from auditor general Sheila Fraser's fall report to Parliament:

- Public Safety Department unable to respond effectively to national emergencies such as pandemics.
- Health Canada unable to force recall of lead-laden children's jewelry.
- Officials fail to identify skilled jobs Canada needs when selecting immigrants.
- Hundreds of key tax rulings fail to find their way into legislation, creating confusion.
- Federal eHealth initiative gets generally positive prognosis, though some contracting problems remain.
- National Defence takes too many shortcuts in getting military vehicles to soldiers in Afghanistan.
- Indian Affairs not properly monitoring environmental problems on reserves.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Local

CBC calls to regulate cable, satellite

Canada's national public broadcaster is calling for cable and satellite services to offer basic packages of essential TV channels at a regulated price. The recommendation by CBC/Radio-Canada is part of a hot debate between conventional TV broadcasters and the carriers that distribute their programming. The TV broadcasters want their federal regulator to force cable and satellite companies to pay a fee for carrying signals from conventional television stations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 2009 Festival of Media Awards

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Tomorrow's Metro

Comment

Sofi Papamarko writes about whether funny girls finish last.

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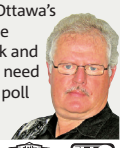
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video A dog reunites with his owner after an unusual custody battle in Nova Scotia at **metronews.ca/canada**

Blogs The SpinDoctor weighs in on Ottawa's handling of the H1N1 outbreak and what the Grits need to revive their poll numbers



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Premier snubs flu critics

McGuinty refuses to cancel Pan Am Games trip to support vaccine effort

Flu Outbreak

Premier Dalton McGuinty is refusing to bow to opposition pressure to cancel his trip to Mexico in support of the 2015 Pan Am Games today and instead stay in Ontario to oversee the continued roll-out of the H1N1 vaccine.

McGuinty said yesterday the vaccination plans were well underway and have improved markedly from the chaotic scene last week that saw pregnant women and children waiting in line for hours — at times only to be turned away.

The Pan Am bid "is important, and I have confidence in our health officials," McGuinty said.

"Our delivery programs are in a better place today than they were last week, and I have confidence that things are only going to get better."

The opposition parties want McGuinty to stay in the province during the crisis to show he's taking his responsibilities as premier seriously.

"If there is a crisis, the premier should be in the province," said Progressive Conservative critic Norm Miller.

"It would make sense for him to cancel his trip."

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, whose hometown of Hamilton would benefit from a winning Pan Am bid, acknowledged the vote Friday was important, but added the swine flu is "something the premier needs to be on top of as well." THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE PAGE 7, 18, 22

TONY BOCK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday he would travel to Mexico to support Ontario's bid for the 2015 Pan Am Games, despite pressure to stay over the mounting H1N1 crisis.

Province working to sell H1N1 shot

Flu Outbreak

PUBLIC Despite long lineups fuelled by the huge demand among high-risk groups for the H1N1 vaccine the real challenge will be convincing the general population to get the shot, Premier Dalton McGuinty said yesterday.

Public health officials across the province have learned from last week's frustrating lineups for the vaccine, said McGuinty, who added he's convinced things will go more smoothly moving forward.

The government's biggest concern right now is persuading all 13 million people in Ontario that they need to get vaccinated, he said.

"I know we have focused on lengthy lineups and the priority groups, but we are still going to be driving hard to encourage the general population to participate in the vaccine program," said McGuinty. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

SHOOTING Toronto police have now identified the man who was found shot dead in a parking lot near Danforth and Pape avenues late Monday evening. Police say the shooting happened at a parking lot on Gough Avenue just before 8 p.m. Several shots were heard fired before witnesses saw multiple suspects fled the scene, police say. The victim has been identified as 27-year-old Theodoros Tiku of Toronto. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Canwest prepares for legal battle

CREDITORS A legal fight between U.S. investment bank Goldman Sachs and insolvent Canwest Global Communications Corp. is brewing after Goldman filed court documents suggesting creditors of the media conglomerate have been making moves without telling them.

The allegations centre around a numbered company created by Canwest at the request of Goldman to hold the specialty TV assets the Winnipeg-based company bought from Alliance Atlantis in 2007.

Specialty channels

- Goldman Sachs is concerned that the numbered company could be a way for creditors to tighten their control on the highly lucrative specialty channel assets, which include HGTV, Showcase and Diva.

Goldman says that company, known as 4414616 Canada Inc., was closed in the days before Canwest filed for CCAA protection in Canadian courts on Oct. 6, and it believes the decision was made by its U.S. and Canadian creditors without its knowledge. THE CANADIAN PRESS

On the web

H1N1 clinics:

- For a complete list of H1N1 flu shot clinics in the city, go to **metronews.ca/local**

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Silk

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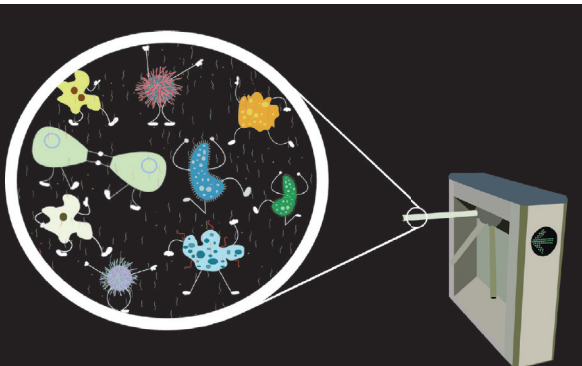

Crack more myths, like the ones about soy. BustitorBelieveit.ca

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Fall lands construction worker in hospital

A worker had to be backboarded and lifted out of a trench by a crane after a 15-foot fall at a construction site near Lower Jarvis Street. Police say the man was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

2 charges dropped in shoplifter case

Chinatown shopkeeper still to face trial for assault, forcible confinement

The Crown has withdrawn two of the criminal charges faced by a Toronto shopkeeper who tied up and detained a man who stole from his store.

Charges of kidnapping and carrying a concealed weapon were withdrawn against Wang (David) Chen in a Toronto court yesterday morning.

Chen, 35, will be tried June 21-23 on the remaining charges of forcible confinement and assault.

His lawyer, Peter Lindsay, says he will make a constitutional argument based on the validity of a citizen's arrest, adding he feels Chen should never have been charged in the first place. Lindsay said outside court the weapons charge was "ludicrous, and I'm glad that's been withdrawn."

Chen says he's disappointed because he is still facing charges.

"They only dropped two charges and I was hoping they would drop everything. I still need to go to court in June."

He was charged in May when he made a citizen's arrest after a man stole $60 worth of flowers from his shop, the Lucky Moose Food Mart and later returned. Under the Criminal Code, a person must find someone in the act of committing a crime for a citizen's arrest to be legal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Alex Yuan, national president of the Chinese-Canadian Conservative Association, greets David Chen on the Old City Hall steps after the Crown dropped two charges against the merchant.

Toronto Star looking at layoffs

MEDIA The Toronto Star has launched what its publisher is calling likely the biggest restructuring in the newspaper's history by offering voluntary buyouts to employees in all divisions of the company.

Publisher John Cruickshank told employees in a memo yesterday that the changes will affect jobs across the organization and could include layoffs.

He also said the Star is exploring the possibility of contracting out some work.

The moves come as the newspaper industry grapples with the weaker economy, which has hurt profits, while readers continue to migrate to the Internet for their news.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

ROBBERY Police are searching for two male suspects following a robbery in the North York area last night. Around 5 p.m. four men allegedly entered Payday Lenders on Dufferin Street just north of Lawrence Avenue and demanded cash, police said. Police arrested two male suspects after a foot and helicopter search, and are searching for two others. The men were last seen at Glencairn Avenue and Marlee Avenue and police said one could be armed with a gun.

FATAL A 63-year-old man died in hospital after crashing a tractor-trailer on Highway 400 just south of Barrie yesterday. The driver was just south of Highway 89 travelling southbound on Highway 400 when he lost control. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

TTC positioning to raise fares in New Year?

TRANSIT All signs point to a New Year's fare hike for TTC riders, now that the Toronto Transit Commission has moved up its monthly November meeting to talk about operating costs.

Originally scheduled for the end of the month, it will take place Nov. 17, with the TTC's 2010 operating budget expected to be the key agenda item. That gives the 11 city councillors on the transit commission just a little over the six weeks the TTC requires to prepare for a fare increase.

It's not clear how big a fare hike is being contemplated, but an increase of about 25 cents per ride raises about $45 million in revenue for the transit system.

$538M The TTC last week announced it had reduced its 10-year capital plan, which includes new vehicles and facilities, by $538 million.

For the past decade the TTC has raised fares about 10 cents per ride annually, which brings in about $20 million in operating revenue. But this year Mayor David Miller pledged a price freeze to help recession-weary riders.

Transit officials were

CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The TTC says a 10 cent fare increase usually means a loss of about two million rides a year.

mum yesterday on the issue of a fare increase.

"The bottom line is the deficit for the TTC is huge," said TTC vice-chair Joe Mihevc, referring to the shortfall in operating revenue generated at the fare box, where the transit system recovers only about 71 per cent of its costs.

He said he didn't know the exact size of the deficit yet, but the number would be apparent by the Nov. 17 meeting.

"You cannot talk about the deficit without talking about fares," he conceded. A 10 cent increase usually means a loss of about two million rides a year, said Mihevc.

The TTC is only just recovering from the loss of ridership in the 1990s, where it cut service and increased fares.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Millions moved to mutual funds
Canadians moved between $262.2 million and $762.2 million out of mutual funds in October, according to preliminary industry data yesterday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

DriveTest strike costing jobs: Critics

Truck driving instructors are losing their jobs and students are unable to finish their training because of an 11-week DriveTest strike the government should be bringing to a conclusion, critics charged yesterday.

"These are people that have lost their jobs in the past in the manufacturing industry and they thought trucking would be a good career for them, yet they come in only to find out there's another setback — they cannot go for road tests," said Gus Rahim, president of the Truck Training Schools Association of Ontario.

"I'm not sure what they're on now — maybe social assistance, or their benefits have run out. They're very, very frustrated."

The strike is also affecting instructors who are getting laid off because enrolment has come almost to a standstill, and opposition parties say it's time for the government to step in to force an end to the strike.

"People need (the labour) minister to assume the responsibility and the authority that he has to ensure that this doesn't continue to drag out, that people have an opportunity to take on the jobs for which they're trained," said Progressive Conservative Frank Klees.

Premier Dalton McGuinty said the government was encouraging both sides in the dispute to come to an agreement but wouldn't get involved in the negotiations. THE CANADIAN PRESS

TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Dozens of truckers descended on the Ontario legislature yesterday morning to rally against the DriveTest strike, parking their trucks around Queen's Park Circle in protest.

Luxury home sales ride out recession

REALTORS Selling million-dollar homes in the middle of a recession is a tough slog. But the market this time around has been less painful than in the past, say luxury realtors.

"Typically in a recession luxury homes are the first to dive in price and the last to recover," says Toronto realtor Barry Cohen.

"But apart from a bad winter, it looks like we haven't really skipped a beat."

Cohen currently has 22 homes listed for more than $1 million.

According to a report by ReMax Ontario Atlantic Canada released yesterday, the market for million-dollar homes in the Greater Toronto Area was actually slightly stronger this year than last. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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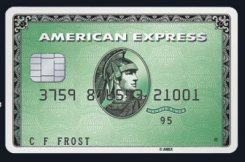

Body found in rubble

FIRE Excavation crews discovered a body in a burnt-out building in the Annex, but it's not yet known whether it's the missing woman who alerted residents as fire engulfed the structure early Saturday.

Workers found a woman's charred body about 3:30 p.m. yesterday while cleaning out the rubble at the devastated Bathurst Street building near Dupont Street.

Marie Speck, 50, has been missing since the blaze broke out around 5:30 a.m. Saturday.

Speck, who was staying with a couple in a two-bedroom apartment in the building, woke up the other residents, police said.

She then disappeared.

The blaze took more than 80 firefighters nearly five hours to extinguish. Crews did a quick scan of the building but found no bodies, said fire Capt. David Eckerman

"The time of the day and the smoke made visibility nil .... everything is the same colour — and that colour is black," he said.

"The building started to crumble upon itself and easily a person could be covered by the debris."

The Ontario fire marshal has taken over the investigation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Opposition demand answers on eHealth contract

QUEEN'S PARK EHealth's awarding of a $236-million contract at the height of a spending scandal at the provincial agency is "ominous" given the timing and the fact the Ontario government kept the deal quiet, the opposition charged yesterday.

The contract only became public after consulting firm Nightingale announced it would be among several companies benefiting from the three-year deal to link another 5,700 Ontario doctors to electronic health records for their patients.

While the government insisted yesterday that the announcement was good news, the New Democrats and Progressive Conservatives said it raised a lot of questions about why the Liberal government failed to publicize the deal.

"No transparency, no accountability. It's the same old eHealth all over again."
France Gelinas, NDP health critic

"None of us are able to go up the chain of command to find who approved this," said NDP health critic France Gelinas.

"No transparency, no accountability. It's the same old eHealth all over again."

People are worried about who benefited from the latest eHealth deal after the province's auditor general issued a special report saying Ontario got little value for the $1 billion it has spent so far on electronic health records, said Opposition Leader Tim Hudak.

"It's very ominous that at the height of the controversy around the billion-dollar boondoggle at eHealth, the government slipped another $236 million out the door," said Hudak.

"Taxpayers are justifiably nervous about whether that money went to Liberal friendly consultants or to health care."

In his special report on eHealth, Auditor General Jim McCarter found the agency awarded millions of dollars in untendered contracts.

The $236 million went to companies that had been pre-approved to take on contracts for eHealth and that met the qualifications of the OntarioMD program to sell their products to doctors.

Premier Dalton McGuinty said the government wanted to wait until the auditor issued his report on eHealth before announcing that the agency had awarded the contract. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cyclist in serious condition after accident

A cyclist is in serious condition after a collision in Burlington yesterday morning. Police say the 34-year-old was cycling east on Dundas Street around 9 a.m. when he was struck by an oncoming Ford Escape. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Roller derby phenomenon growing

Before the bout begins, the Toronto Roller Derby girls tape their kneepads and skates and don their uniforms of shiny, tiny shorts and fishnets, as the sold-out crowd waits for their favourite players to take the stage — a makeshift track lined with four rolls worth of electrical tape in a converted airplane hangar.

KEVIN KONNYU/THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO

The Smoke City Betties face off against the Gore Gore Rollergirls during roller derby action at Downsview Park in Toronto.

Hundreds of fans sit in bleachers, lawn chairs and on the concrete floor. After a showy dance routine introduction, the Chicks Ahoy team, clad in skimpy sailor costumes, lines up against the zombie painted faces of the Death Track Dolls.

When the whistle blows, the girls crosscut in circles around the track. Mach Wheels, the jammer, sneaks into the pack from behind. Her teammates try to protect her from the other team's blockers who are trying with equal zeal to knock her down.

The jammer scores points for her team by breaking through the pack. For each woman she passes on the opposing team, the jammer earns a point.

The Toronto Roller Derby league consists of about 80 women in four teams who range in age from their early 20s to their 50s, explains Dawn Weaver (Demolition Dawn), president of the league.

Weaver spends most of her time running the all-female, self-owned and operated league, overseeing 18 committees and answering 50 to 100 emails a day.

"It's almost another full-time job."

"Derby is pretty important to me," she says, adding she was drawn to the sport "partly because of the costume, part because I love skating, and there's also this punk rock vibe to it."

"It's also a bit of an outlet. You can go out and hit people and fall down. It's liberating."

The league is part of a grassroots phenomenon of all-female, self-organized and owned roller derby leagues across the continent.

Fan turnout is higher than ever as the league nears the end of its third season, thanks to a publicity blitz surrounding the film Whip it.

For roller girls, the rink is a temporary escape from the pressures of being a 21st-century woman, where girls of every size, background and talent level belong. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Plant closure will cost 9,000 more jobs: CAW

AUTO The impact of the closure of a Ford assembly plant in southwestern Ontario will extend far beyond the plant itself, costing the region thousands of spinoff jobs and millions of dollars in tax revenue, according to union officials and local politicians.

Ford announced Friday the plant in St. Thomas, near London, will close in 2011 due to a lack of demand for the full-sized sedans it produces.

The closure of a major manufacturing facility can be disastrous to the region in which it's located, and Canadian Auto Workers president Ken Lewenza estimated that 6,000 spinoff jobs will be lost above and beyond the 1,400 workers

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

CAW economist Jim Stanford

directly employed by the plant.

CAW economist Jim Stanford said the number might be even higher than that, estimating that more than 9,000 jobs in total depend on Ford's assembly plant in St. Thomas.

"Given the terrible, terrible conditions in the auto parts sector with dozens of plant closures — we have lost 30,000 auto parts jobs in the last year — losing yet another assembly plant is the last thing anyone can afford," Stanford said.

Bob Hammersley, president and CEO of the St. Thomas and District Chamber of Commerce, said the closure of a plant like Ford's "touches the whole community at every level."

The plant is not the first in the southwestern Ontario community to close in recent months. Earlier this year, Daimler AG said it was ending production at its St. Thomas Sterling truck plant, eliminating more than 700 jobs. The plant employed more than 2,000 people at its peak.

"You look beyond the employees and their families, which is a huge concern, but you start to realize that it touches other families, other employees, other people in several, if not hundreds of other businesses," Hammersley said.

Hammersley added the Ford plant currently contributes about $3 million in tax revenue to Southwold Township, where it's located.

At its height, one in four jobs in the region was directly linked to the auto industry, but Stanford said the area has probably been the second-hardest hit in Canada after Windsor, by the decline in the manufacturing sector. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Many say Toronto has slipped in Miller's time as mayor: Poll

CITY Only one in four people in Toronto think the city is better off now than when Mel Lastman departed as mayor, according to a poll by Angus Reid Strategies.

Mayor David Miller's rating still suffers from the summer's 39-day municipal strike, vice-president Jodi Shanoff told a breakfast gathering at the National Club yesterday.

Angus Reid conducted an online poll of 500 Toronto residents Oct. 25 and 26. The poll has a margin of error of just less than xi per centage points.

Shanoff said Torontonians think the city has slipped.

"Nine in 10 Torontonians say that things are either the same or worse off than they were this time a year ago," she said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

GARBAGE Tossing a green bin roughly to the floor of a City Hall committee room, Coun. Howard Moscoe complained that too many city garbage collectors fail to respect garbage, recycling and green bins. They smash them down, or leave them lying on the street after they're emptied; it's messy and it breaks the bins, said Moscoe.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Former MP dies at 90
Former member of Parliament and Owen Sound council member Dr. Gus Mitges has died. Mitges died Sunday at Guelph General Hospital. He was 90. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Online security less of a concern: Poll

A new study released by Ipsos Reid examining online privacy and security has found that 34 per cent of online Canadians are "very concerned" with their online security, a decline of 13 per cent from 2003. However, those online Canadians who state they are "somewhat concerned" increased by 11 per cent. The overall level of concern (80 per cent) remains consistent with 2003. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Vaccine slowdown offers second chance

Authorities hope to improve upon troubled rollout of medicine

Flu **Outbreak**

The slowdown in the H1N1 vaccine rollout may frustrate Canadians looking for a flu shot, but provincial and local health authorities see an opportunity in the problem.

Having less vaccine to administer gives places that didn't have a seamless vaccine rollout last week a chance to hit the reset button, several key public health officials admit.

"We saw some challenges, obviously with respect to lineups — lineups that were unacceptable to us and to the public," says Dr. Arlene King, Ontario's chief medical officer of health.

Dr. Joel Kettner, Manitoba's chief medical officer of health, said one of the lessons public health needs to take onboard doesn't relate to managing lineups or scheduling clinics. It's about psychology — what drives people to line up for hours for a shot that polls taken a week earlier suggested most didn't want.

He and others say the enormous impact of the death of 13-year-old Evan Frustaglio of Toronto caught them off guard.

Public health was expecting a "tepid" demand for vaccine, says Dr. Perry Kendall, chief medical officer for British Columbia.

But the day most clinics opened, people saw the photo of a smiling, normal and now dead kid. Seven-hour lines formed outside some clinics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberal health critic Dr. Carolyn Bennett, right, speaks at a news conference yesterday at the National Press Theatre in Ottawa, discussing a timeline of events that raises questions about the government's lack of planning and leadership on H1N1.

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Production of adjuvanted vaccine resumes

Flu **Outbreak**

QUEBEC The company making Canada's H1N1 vaccine has finished producing a special version of the shot for pregnant women and is again focusing its efforts on the vaccine intended for the majority of Canadians, a spokeswoman said yesterday.

GlaxoSmithKline was asked to make special batches of adjuvant-free vaccine for pregnant women. The switchover of production lines at its plant in Ste-Foy, Que., was blamed for slowdowns in this week's delivery of the adjuvanted vaccine across Canada.

Adjuvants are compounds that boost the immune response to the vaccine, allowing lower doses to be used.

The Quebec plant is back to producing the regular vaccine, said GSK spokeswoman Megan Spoore.

"Once we receive Health Canada approval it will be shipped to the provinces and territories," Spoore added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

m.metronews.ca

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Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

B.C. Olympic flame continues its journey

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Torchbearer Percy Williams is shown holding the Olympic torch yesterday as he takes part in a blessing ceremony in Skidegate, B.C. Follow the Olympic torch relay across Canada with an interactive map at metronews.ca/sports.

News in brief

FLU POLL A new poll suggests a majority of Canadians are either planning to get vaccinated against H1N1 or have already done so. Forty-nine per cent of respondents to the latest Canadian Press Harris-Decima poll said they intend to get the swine flu shot, while six per cent said they already have. Just more than one-third, or 36 per cent, said they don't intend to get inoculated, compared with 50 per cent in early October. THE CANADIAN PRESS

N.S. Grits want police trained to help the mentally ill

Nova Scotia's opposition Liberals have introduced an amendment to legislation that calls for a mental illness training program for police and correctional officers. Justice critic Michel Samson says it would educate officers on the most effective ways to deal with mentally ill people. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Our troops face 'hot' winter

Intelligence reports warn of a 'very different' Afghan war

Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan are preparing for a "very different winter" — and it could be "hot."

There are signs Taliban militants plan to ramp up their attacks in the coming months in an effort to influence debate about international troop levels in the country.

In past years, Taliban attacks have declined markedly in winter months due the logistical challenge of travel, particularly in the country's mountain passes.

But a series of intelligence reports suggest Taliban commanders are seeking to exploit wavering levels of international support for the Afghan mission, says the commander of Canadian troops.

"We ... know for a fact that the insurgents aren't leaving this winter."
Lt. Col. Jerome Walsh

"We ... know for a fact that the insurgents aren't leaving this winter," said Lt. Col. Jerome Walsh, the battle group commander of Task Force Kandahar.

"They recognized key decisions are being made by Obama, by the British, by the Danes, by Canada and by others as to force levels and future commitments."

The intelligence reports suggest Canadian soldiers will be targeted with continuing persistence.

Last week two blasts killed two soldiers.

"There is no doubt about it, you can expect throughout the winter that we will continue to be dealing with the same types of incidents, same numbers, same brazen attacks," Walsh said.

"This is going to be a different winter."

Kandahar's political leaders have also noticed higher concentrations of Taliban insurgents than is usual.

The Taliban appear emboldened by the decision to cancel a planned presidential run-off vote.

The group credits its intimidation campaign for the end of the vote plan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 13

Propaganda war

- The Taliban has made big strides in the propaganda war to increase its political clout in the West.
- An updated manual for Taliban field commanders stresses the importance of avoiding civilian deaths.
- Taliban commander Mullah Omar has also hinted he is seeking to distance himself from al-Qaida.

Budget chief's big worry: His budget

CASH Canada's budget watchdog warns he may have to shut down his office if funding he was promised is withheld.

Parliamentary budget officer Kevin Page told a House committee yesterday he still has not been given any indication he will be given the $2.8 million earmarked for his office this year.

"If we don't have that critical mass, it's my recommendation that the Parliamentary Budget Office be shut down."

And if he doesn't get it, he said, he won't be able to retain the qualified staff needed to prepare his reports on government expenditures on everything from budget reality checks to Afghan war costs.

The office was created by the Tories two years ago.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bashing Page

- The Tories were incensed the budget office released an accounting of Afghan war costs — which they had refused to do.
- Liberal MP Carolyn Bennett has said Kevin Page has exceeded his mandate.
- Page has angered the Library of Parliament by releasing some of his reports without prior permission.

Premier gives rivals a boost in Manitoba

POLITICS New Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger's first cabinet is bigger than the previous one and includes both his rivals.

He has handed key posts to the men who ran against him in last month's NDP leadership race — Andrew Swan is the new justice minister and Steve Ashton takes over transportation and infrastructure.

Selinger also has elevated three backbenchers to the inner circle:

- Bill Blaikie goes to conservation.
- Jennifer Howard heads to labour and immigration.
- Flor Marcelino goes to culture, heritage and tourism.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ten arrested as bikers are de-constructed

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

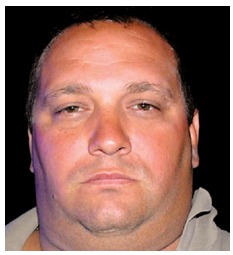
Insp. Michel Forget, left, and Insp. Denis Morin of Quebec Provincial Police tell a Montreal press conference yesterday about Project Diligence, which led to the mass arrests.

CRIME Quebec provincial police yesterday arrested 10 people in a crackdown on criminal involvement in the construction industry.

The Hells Angels, police said, had bullied their way into legitimate businesses and used them for money-laundering.

Yesterday's arrests are being linked to Normand Marvin (Casper) Ouimet, an alleged Hells Angels member wanted for first-degree murder, conspiracy to commit murder and gangsterism. He remains at large.

Police say Ouimet, 39, is a player in Quebec's construction and masonry industries.



Marvin (Casper) Ouimet

They describe the Hells' presence as pervasive.

"The influence of a criminal organization is always underestimated," said Insp. Michel Forget.

"Mr. Ouimet is still trying to have a link with this industry."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man gets 15-month jail term for DUI crash that killed B.C. cabbie
A man has been given a 15-month prison term for a crash that killed a cab driver in Vernon, B.C. last year. Dallas Parker Smithson, 20, admitted impaired driving causing death and impaired driving causing bodily harm. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Montreal **Gas leak causes traffic woes**

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police are shown at the scene on a street in downtown Montreal yesterday, where a major gas leak caused traffic chaos.

Fuel prices rising despite cold weather

Past trends show gas costs drop in winter

Pump prices normally fall when the cold weather starts to settle in, but drivers might have noticed them heading upward over the past month.

Gasoline averaged $1.02 per litre this past week, according to the latest pump price survey by Calgary consulting firm MJ Ervin & Associates released yesterday.

At the beginning of October, the price was just shy of 95 cents per litre.

During the first week of November last year, the average pump price was just less than 93 cents per litre.

$1.03 Gasbuddy.com, which tallies gas prices reported by individual drivers in several cities, said the average Canadian price yesterday was around $1.03.

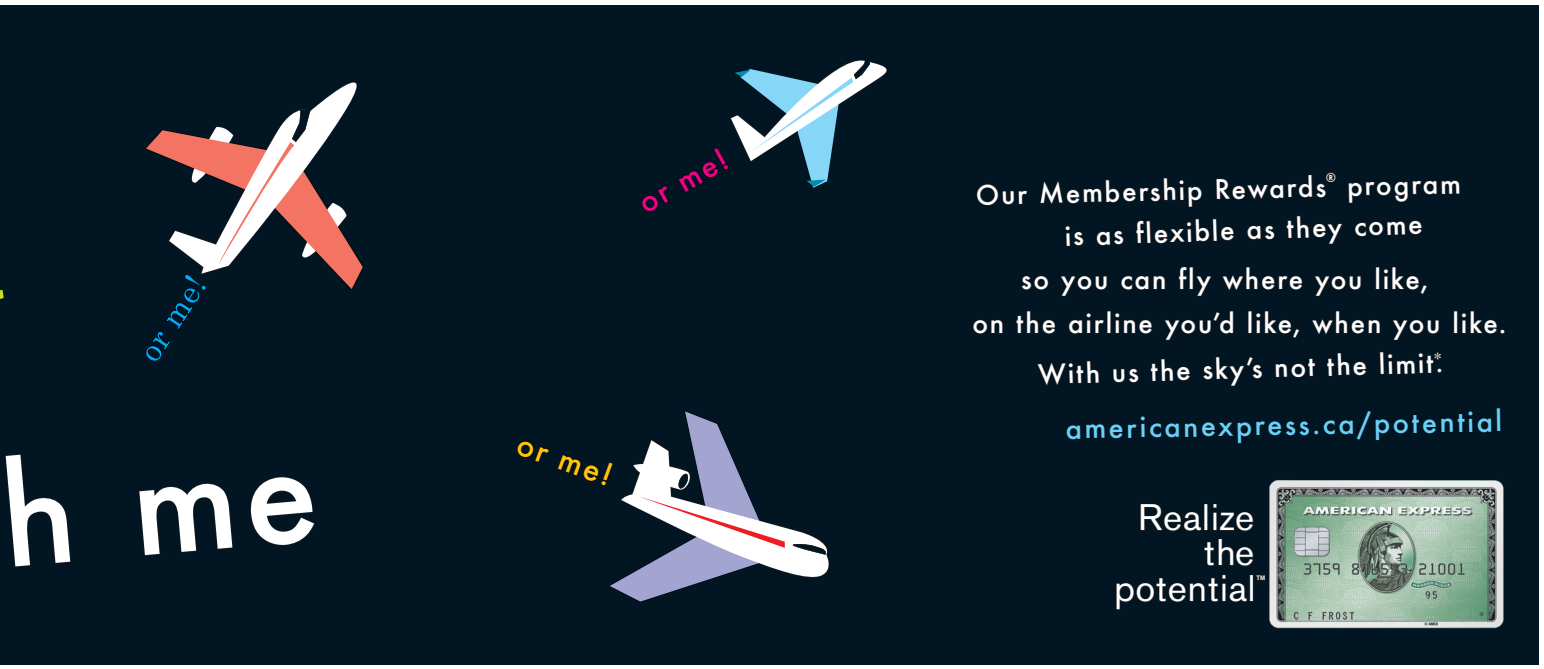
"The winter season is generally low demand season for gasoline," said Jason Mills, an oil analyst with the National Energy Board.

Supplies of the fuel are "comfortable" going into the winter, he added, which should theoretically work to press prices down.

"But with crude prices expected to be higher than they were last winter, it's reasonable to expect that gasoline prices will also be higher."

The NEB's winter energy outlook released yesterday calls for crude oil prices to average between $75 US and $80 per barrel as a sense of optimism begins to return to the recession-battered economy.

Since gasoline is made from crude, the price of oil plays a significant role in the final price at the pump. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Charles goes back in time in Newfoundland

ROYAL VISIT Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall are exploring centuries-old aspects of Newfoundland and Labrador as their Canadian visit continues.

The royal couple visited Cupids and Brigus yesterday, unveiling a plaque in Cupids to celebrate the community's 400th birthday in 2010.

Charles spoke of the "stoic" early settlers of the area in an address to those attending the unveiling ceremony in a church.

"They came with their own vision of a new life ... something new for themselves and their children," he said.

"They all came with a purpose, a dream to create something new ... to contribute to the great and vibrant tapestry which is the Canada of today."

Charles and Camilla arrived under a cloud cover that appeared to hover just over Conception Bay.

Rain fell off and on, and may well have thinned the sparse crowd of well-wishers who greeted them. A large Union Jack waved in the breeze.

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, tour through Brigus, N.L., yesterday during their 11-day visit to Canada. **More coverage, page 18.**

Cupids was originally known as Cuper's Cove and it bills itself as the oldest English settlement in Canada.

Charles also remarked that he was "struck by the rugged and imposing landscape" of the area.

Charles, who studied archeology at university, listened closely and asked many questions during a visit to an archeological dig.

Relics unearthed so far are said to date back to the site's original plantation in 1610.

Archeologist William Gilbert showed Charles and Camilla a coin unearthed at the dig site that is believed to date back to the 1600s. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Female lion's attacks on younger male forces a move

ZOOS There's no jungle love in the lion enclosure at New Brunswick's Magnetic Hill Zoo, and that's left an older lioness so frustrated and angry she has resorted to violence.

Bruce Dougan, general manager of the zoo in Moncton, said yesterday that Kito became depressed after her longtime mate, Marshall, became ill and had to be put down in February.

The zoo brought in two lion cubs — a male, Azizi, and a female — to be company for Kito and to form a new pride for her.

Dougan said the three lions got along until Kito went into heat. The young male didn't know what to do and she attacked him several times.

Kito is being sent a zoo in Seagrave, Ont., where they got her almost 10 years ago. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

PORNOGRAPHY The case of a Roman Catholic bishop facing child pornography charges is back in an Ottawa courtroom today. A routine hearing is to be held for Raymond Lahey, who is charged with possessing and importing child pornography. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Government protects more park land

A larger portion of Algonquin Park will be protected from logging after Ontario accepted recommendations making 50 per cent of the park off-limits. That means 371,238 hectares will now be off limits to logging — an area equal to six times the size of Toronto. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Officials investigating cause of helicopter gearbox crack

HALIFAX Officials with Sikorsky and Cougar Helicopters are inspecting the main gearbox on an S-92 chopper to find out what caused a hairline crack on the critical component.

A spokesman for Cougar said yesterday a crew from Sikorsky is taking extra time examining the gearbox mounting feet, a day after the fracture was found on the helicopter when it returned from a training mission off Nova Scotia.

Christian Kittleson says they expect the helicopter will be back in service by Friday.

Cougar engineers were doing a standard inspection Monday when they discovered the crack on the mounting feet that attach the main gearbox to the airframe.

It is the same make of helicopter that was involved in a fatal crash off Newfoundland last March, although the cause of that crash was not linked to the same issue. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Standard visual inspections

- Two international aviation regulatory agencies recently issued airworthiness directives that mandate visual inspections of the mounting feet after every 10 hours of flight.

THE BODY IS A MARVELOUS MACHINE,
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JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A Metanor worker leaves the mine under the watchful eye of a security guard as investigators look into the deaths of three miners yesterday in Desmaraisville, Que.

Miner's 'blocks of ice now:' Relative

A grieving relative says three dead miners drowned in such frigid water that their bodies were frozen blocks of ice by the time they were recovered.

The three men were trapped when the northern Quebec mine was flooded Friday and, after a frenzied rescue effort, their bodies were found three days later.

Rescue workers had frantically pumped water from hundreds of metres below the ground in the hope of finding the men alive.

But Pietro Bollini said yesterday there's no way the three men — including his brother, Domenico — could have survived for very long.

He said rescue workers did their best, but that the water was so cold the men must have died within minutes.

"Submerged in water like that? Forget it. They're blocks of ice now," Bollini said in an interview in Lebel-sur-Quevillon, a town near the mine.

"When they took them out yesterday, they were frozen from head to toe … Fifteen minutes in there, and you're dead."

> **"Fifteen minutes in there, and you're dead."** Pietro Bollini, brother of one victim

Marc Guay, Bruno Goulet, and Bollini were doing repair work in the mine for Metanor Resources when it flooded. Two of them worked for Metanor while Guay was an employee of mining contractor Montali.

Metanor issued a statement yesterday expressing its deep sadness over the tragedy and promised its full support to grieving families and authorities now conducting an investigation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

RED DEER An Alberta man has pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a teenage girl he kidnapped while impersonating a cop. He was arrested in February after a 16-year-old girl was found crying in a shopping mall two days after she was abducted.

EXPO BID Calgary says it is pulling out of the race to host the 2017 World's Fair, leaving the way clear for Edmonton. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Anthropologist dies at 100

Claude Levi-Strauss, widely considered the father of modern anthropology for work that included theories about commonalities between tribal and industrial societies, has died. He was 100. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Chinese crime lord sentenced

Dubbed the "godmother" of the Chinese underworld, she was notorious for her toughness and a lavish lifestyle that reportedly included luxury villas and a stable of 16 young lovers. Her criminal reign ended yesterday when Xie Caiping, 46, was sentenced to 18 years in prison for running illegal casinos and bribing government officials. Her trial was one of a series of gang prosecutions in the southwestern city of Chongqing that have featured lurid testimony about sex, corruption and the violent underworld. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Men-only golf club rule upheld

IRELAND A premier Dublin golf club can continue to bar women from membership, the Irish Supreme Court ruled yesterday in a discrimination case inspired by similar protests against men-only clubs in the U.S. In a 3-2 judgment, Ireland's top court ruled that Portmarnock Golf Club was not violating Ireland's Equal Status Act, because the anti-discrimination law permits exceptions for exclusively male and female clubs. The Equality Authority of Ireland pursued the case on behalf of the National Women's Council of Ireland. It filed a 2002 complaint following similar protests against the men-only membership of the Augusta National Golf Club — site of the annual Masters Tournament — in Georgia. Irish broadcasters RTE interviewed an unidentified Portmarnock club member who welcomed the verdict. The man said he didn't want women on the course because they would slow down the speed of play. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Exception

- The golf course's only permitted female member is President Mary McAleese, Ireland's symbolic head of state.

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Dems feeling heat

Obama suffers setback as Republicans take Virginia

Republicans wrested the Virginia governor's seat from Democrats yesterday and vied for another in New Jersey, troubling signs for U.S. President Barack Obama and his party ahead of next year's congressional elections.

Republican Gov.-elect Bob McDonnell's victory in Virginia over Democrat R. Creigh Deeds was a triumph for a Republican Party looking to rebuild after being booted from power in national elections in 2006 and 2008. It also was a setback for Obama in a swing state that was a crucial part of his electoral landslide just a year ago. The president had campaigned personally for Deeds.

In New Jersey, Gov. Jon Corzine, a billionaire former Wall Street executive, was struggling to hold onto his seat in a three-way race. An Associated Press exit poll showed that race was too close to call.

Democrats consider New Jersey a stronghold.

The outcomes of the two races were watched closely for hints about the attitudes of American voters and whether the diverse coalition that sent Obama to the White House remains intact.

Obama needs all the lawmakers he can get to pass his legislative priorities of health care and climate change.

Defeats could make it harder for him to persuade moderate Democrats from conservative areas to get on board.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York

- In other election races, a number of U.S. cities selected mayors, including New York. Mayor Michael Bloomberg was heavily favoured to win re-election.

Karadzic finally appears, blames judges for starting trial without him

NETHERLANDS Radovan Karadzic appeared at his UN war crimes trial in The Hague yesterday for the first time since it began last week, claiming his "fundamental rights have been violated" by judges who started without him.

The former Bosnian Serb leader, accused of masterminding Serb atrocities throughout the 1992-95 Bosnian war, had boycotted the first three days of the trial. Yesterday, Karadzic, who is defending himself, again insisted he needed more time to prepare.

"I do not want to boycott these proceedings, but I cannot take part in something that has been bad from the start and where my fundamental rights have been violated," Karadzic said.

Karadzic faces two counts of genocide and nine other charges of crimes against humanity and war crimes. He has refused to enter pleas, but insists he is innocent of all charges.

The prosecution's two-day opening statement portrayed Karadzic as the supreme commander of a brutal campaign to ethnically cleanse Muslims and Croats from Bosnian Serb claimed territory.

The campaign included the deadly 44-month siege of the capital, Sarajevo, and culminated in the 1995 massacre of some 8,000 Muslim men and boys in the eastern enclave of Srebrenica.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MICHAEL KOOREN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic enters court yesterday in The Hague.

Africans boycott UN climate talks

SPAIN African countries boycotted meetings at United Nations climate talks yesterday, saying industrial countries had set carbon-cutting targets too low for reducing global greenhouse gas emissions.

The action forced several technical meetings to be cancelled. Delegates to this week's talks in Barcelona warned that, unless the African protest was settled, it could set back the timetable for concluding a new climate change pact at a major UN conference next month in Copenhagen.

Scientists say industrial countries should reduce emissions by 25 to 40 per cent from 1990 levels by 2020, but targets announced so far amount to far less than the minimum.

Africa is asking for higher commitments "because we are under pressure, but the response (from developed countries) is that it is politically and economically difficult for them to put numbers on the table," the group's director, Grace Akumu, said. "For us it is a question of life and death."

A landmark 2007 report based on the work of about 2,000 scientists predicted Africa would suffer the most from drought, agricultural damage, rising sea levels threatening coastal areas and the spread of tropical pests and diseases.

A new study published yesterday says the glaciers on Africa's highest mountain, Kilimanjaro, have lost 85 per cent of the ice they had in 1912, with more than a quarter present in 2000 gone by 2007.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANU FERNANDEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pa Ousman Jarju of Gambia attends a press conference of the African Group board yesterday during session of the UN climate talks in Barcelona.

News in brief

ITALY The Vatican has denounced a ruling by the European court of human rights that said the display of crucifixes in Italian public schools violates religious and educational freedoms. Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi says the crucifix is a "fundamental sign of the importance of religious values" in Italian history and culture. Lombardi's statement came as the court in France yesterday ordered Italy to pay an $8,000 fine to a mother who wanted crucifixes removed from her children's classrooms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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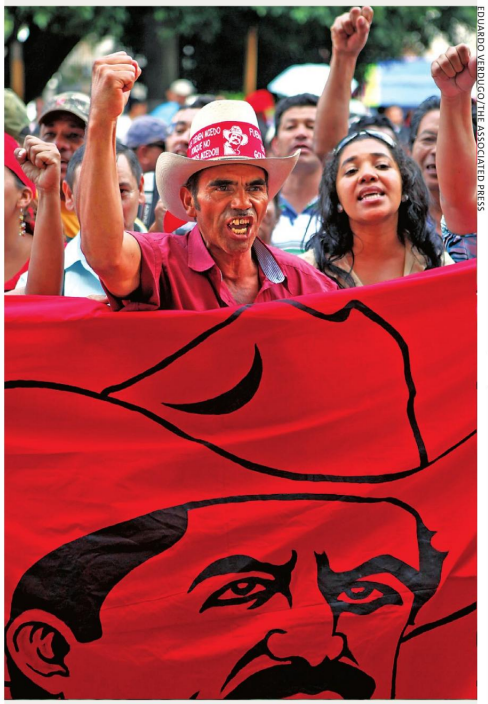
Seventh arrest in California gang rape
A seventh suspect was arrested yesterday in the gang rape of a 15-year-old girl outside a Richmond, Calif., high school dance while as many as 20 people watched without calling police. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Honduras **Calls for reinstatement**


EDUARDO VERDUGO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Supporters of Honduras' ousted President Manuel Zelaya shout slogans during a protest in the capital city of Tegucigalpa yesterday. The leadership of the country's Congress met to begin consideration of an accord that could reinstate Zelaya.

Students found dead in pond

Canadian woman among trio earlier reported missing in U.S.

A 21-year-old student from Manitoba was among three North Dakota college softball players found dead yesterday in a Jeep that was pulled from a pond two days after the women disappeared.

Authorities had been searching since Sunday night for Ashley Neufeld of Brandon, Man., Kyrstin Gemar, 22, of San Diego; and Afton Williamson, 20, of Lake Elsinore, Calif.

Neufeld

Gemar

Williamson

Police Lt. Rod Banyai said police are "still investigating" the cause of the deaths and autopsies are planned.

Banyai said he believes The Dickinson State University students were in the 1997 Jeep Cherokee Sunday night when they made two cellphone calls to friends for help, before the lines went dead.

Banyai said the pond is about 3.6 metres deep on a farm northwest of Dickinson. In Brandon, people said they were devastated by news of Neufeld's tragic death. Jim Nay started coaching her in softball when she was about 12 years old and coached her for more than six years.

Nay learned of Neufeld's death last night and said it's a feeling of "nothing but total devastation."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Karzai pledges fresh start for Afghan politics

KABUL Afghanistan's president welcomed his new term — achieved after his main opponent withdrew from a runoff election — by reaching out to opponents yesterday and promising to banish the corruption that has undermined his administration.

Hamid Karzai did not spell out how he would institute reforms or mention whether he is willing to make concessions to his opponents.

Karzai spoke a day after being declared victor of an election so marred by fraud that it took two and a half months, and intense international pressure, to resolve. His main opponent, Abdullah Abdullah, said when he dropped out of the planned runoff that he was withdrawing because it could not be free or fair.

Karzai said in a speech he wants people from every part of the country in his government, including political opponents. But he never mentioned Abdullah by name.

Karzai said he needs international support and does not want to squander the goodwill of those supplying thousands of troops and funds to Afghanistan.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Deeds, not words

- U.S. President Barack Obama said Monday that he had called for a new chapter during a telephone call congratulating Karzai over his re-election. When Karzai offered assurances, Obama told him that "the proof is not going to be in words. It's going to be in deeds."

News in brief

WASHINGTON German Chancellor Angela Merkel marked the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall by exhorting the world in a speech to the U.S. Congress yesterday to "tear down the walls of today" and reach a deal to combat global warming. In the first address by a German chancellor to Congress since 1957, Merkel put special emphasis on the need for a global agreement on climate change — one she said she hoped could be forged at an international conference next month in Copenhagen. "We have no time to lose," she declared. Merkel said that no deal could be successful without the support of China and India. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Northumberland Mall

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Cookstown Outlet Mall – kiosk

ETOBICOKE
Cloverdale Mall
Sherway Gardens
Woodbine Centre

GEORGETOWN
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LINDSAY
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Whitney Town Centre

MAPLE
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MARKHAM
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Market Village
Markville Shopping Centre
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980 Eglinton Ave. E.
2800 Skymark Ave.
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170 Rimrock Rd.
2081 Steeles Ave. W.
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Centerpoint Mall
Crossroads Plaza
Empress Walk
Lawrence Square
North York Sheridan Mall
Sheppard Centre
Yorkgate Mall

OAKVILLE
Oakville Place
Winston Power Centre

ORANGEVILLE
114 Broadway Ave.

OSHAWA
Five Points Mall
Oshawa Centre

PICKERING
Pickering Town Centre

RICHMOND HILL
Elgin Mills Crossing
Hillcrest Mall
Richmond Heights Plaza
Time Square Shopping Centre

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Bridlewood Mall – kiosk
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Iran executes member of militant group
An Iranian news agency says authorities have hanged a member of a Sunni militant separatist group on charges of kidnapping. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syphilis growing in China

China has seen a tenfold increase in syphilis cases over the past decade, as migrant workers made enough money in the country's economic boom to hire more prostitutes, a senior Chinese health official said yesterday.

The sexually transmitted disease re-emerged in China during 1980s after being virtually eradicated for two decades, Chen Xiangsheng, the deputy director of China's National Center for Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control, said in the World Health Organization's monthly bulletin. Last year, 278,215 cases were officially reported.

30% Cases of syphilis are now growing by 30 per cent a year in China, according to a senior health official in the country.

Chen said one problem in treating the disease is the stigma and perceived high cost of sexual health clinics. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Johannesburg **Let's dance!**

THEMBA HADEBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Batswana traditional dancers perform during the launch of the Institute of African Royalty in Johannesburg, South Africa, yesterday. The kings, queens and chiefs of Africa say they have a role to play in democracy and development on the continent. Two dozen traditional leaders from across the continent gathered on a Johannesburg university campus to launch the Institute which they say will be a combination of think tank and lobby group.

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Preemies raise U.S. infant mortality rate

Premature births are the main reason the U.S. infant mortality rate is higher than in most European countries, a government report said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

world 17

Court order **Did the crime? Now hold the sign**

SUBMITTED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Evelyn Border is seen holding a sign in front of the Bedford County courthouse in Bedford County, Pa. yesterday. Bedford County District Attorney Bill Higgins says in exchange for Border agreeing to hold the signs he'll ask for probation instead of jail when Border pleads guilty. Higgins says Border swiped a gift card which a girl set on a shelf while a Wal-Mart employee helped her.

Tel Aviv in Hamas rocket range?

Hamas militants in Gaza have successfully test-fired an Iranian rocket able to reach Israel's largest urban centre, the country's military intelligence chief said yesterday.

Maj. Gen. Amos Yadlin told parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee the rocket could fly 60 kilometres, and strike metropolitan Tel Aviv, Israeli media reported.

Until now, rockets fired from Gaza have reached up to 40 kilometres, putting one-eighth of Israel's population within rocket range.

Yadlin said the rocket was fired in recent days, but no further details were immediately available from his testimony before the closed session.

It was not clear whether the rocket actually flew 60 kilometres, or why Yadlin described the rocket as being of Iranian origin.

Hamas, the Islamic militant group that rules Gaza, called Israel's claims an attempt to "justify the crimes it committed in Gaza."

Tehran had no comment on Yadlin's allegations of Iranian involvement.

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Comment

God save us from anything Royal

TheWestView

We are not amused. Charles and Camilla have decided to visit Canada. But nobody asked us, er, me.

The military is ferreting the royal couple around in a free jet, although I'm not sure why — are there no seat sales?

It's bad enough Canadians are still addicted to this vestigial organ of English colonialism; the one we least want to see is Charles. According to the latest poll, 41 per cent prefer William as the next king, and Charlie's stint as tabloid fodder is over (we hope), so what's the point?

Not only that, his mother the Queen is poised to turn up in a few months, which means more bowing and scraping, not to mention jet fuel. At the rate the military budget is being depleted, our troops will have to leave Afghanistan before 2011, long before it is safe for democracy.

I guess you could say Charles' visit pulls us together. This is the first time in living memory I remember agreeing with a separatist. I'm with Patrick Bourgeois, president of Réseau de Résistance du Québécois. Charles is indeed "an atavistic enemy of free Quebec."

On second thought, maybe Charles' visit is a good idea after all.

But no. It's time to Just Say No to the monarchy and all the ridiculous nonsense that attends it.

It's not just that the English monarchy is an affront to the dignity of people from Bombay to Belfast to La Belle Province, although there is that.

It's not just that these people live in absurd state-sponsored luxury while 24,000 of the world's children die of hunger every day. And I can't imagine how they can even look at themselves in their gilt-edged mirrors.

It's that here in Canada, we allow the Royals to distract us from nation-building. Instead of forging a strong democratic republic based on diversity, tolerance and imagination, we're allowing Michaëlle Jean to get her vice-regal knickers in a knot over whether or not she's the head of state.

Of course she's not the head of state! She's a CBC reporter! Get over yourself!

The Emperor or the Prince of Wales or whatever he's called, has no clothes on — figuratively speaking — although I bet he's tailored from tip to toe in only the finest products of Savile Row.

God save us from the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Governor General, the Royal Corgis, etc.

Charles?

Go home.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: How well have governments — federal and provincial — handled the H1N1 vaccination program?

Sergio Timoklein
age 29, Toronto
A: On a scale from one to 10, three or four. Big lineups ... Didn't have enough of the vaccine ... I think they should explain it more, give more information about how it can be prevented.

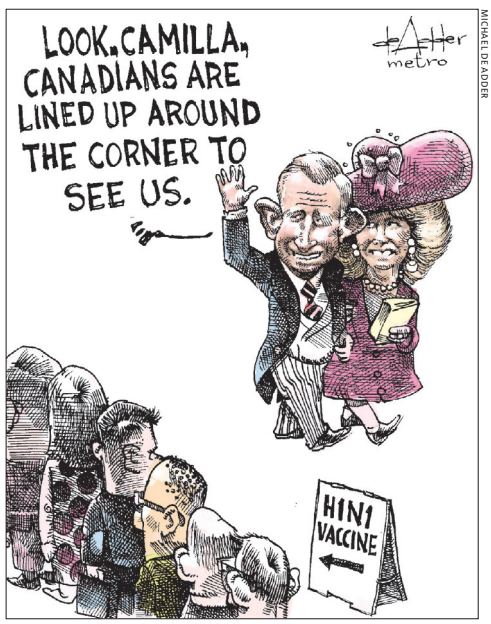
Derek Yee
age 43, Toronto
A: I work at a Regent Park community centre and I see a mass of people lined up ... Some are trying to get assessed, some are there to get the shot ... Needs to be organized better.

Alain Plamondon
age 45, Toronto
A: Poorly ... All the lineups, not all the vaccinations ready.

Donna McCulley
age 35, Ottawa
A: I don't think they're doing a very good job. The lineups are ridiculous. They are taking way too long to vaccinate all the high-risk people. The rest of us have to wait until what? We're sick, or worse?

Jared Chaston
age n/a, Dartmouth, N.S.
A: From what I've heard they're running out — there's just not enough of it. If there was such a big scare you'd think they'd be a little more prepared for the whole fiasco.

Andrea Bagnas
age 27, Vancouver
A: I think they handled it pretty well. They have a bunch of available vaccination sites. As far as I am concerned they are handling it and I don't know what else they could do.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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Paper producer reports $19.8M loss

The appreciation of the Canadian dollar and weak paper markets continued to weigh on Richmond, B.C.- based Catalyst Paper in the third quarter, dropping the pulp and paper producer to a $19.8-million loss, excluding a one-time gain. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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Aeroplan expands

Buys U.S. loyalty company Carlson Marketing

Groupe Aeroplan Inc. has gained a U.S. foothold with the purchase of customer loyalty company Carlson Marketing as the company pursues more international growth.

The company, which started out as Air Canada's frequent flyer program, said it paid $188 million for the Minneapolis-based customer-loyalty company that also has a presence in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

CEO Rupert Duchesne said the acquisition gives Aeroplan a substantial source of revenue and diverse clients around the world.

Aeroplan had been looking for a presence in the United States since 2005, Duchesne said, and had previously considered small scale acquisitions and investments in frequent flyer programs in the United States.

"The only logical way in, rather than trying to build something up from scratch itself, was to buy the market leader."

Aeroplan said Carlson Marketing will be run as a separate division from Aeroplan's other businesses. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biggest rival

• Aeroplan needs a U.S. presence because its biggest competitor is U.S.-based Alliance Data Systems, which owns the Air Miles reward program in Canada, analyst Kenric Tyghe said.

Band-Aid maker cutting 8,000 jobs

WORKERS Johnson&Johnson said yesterday it will trim layers of management, cut thousands of jobs, and set other restructuring moves in order to save up to $900 million US next year.

The maker of Band-Aid and other health products said the cuts will affect six to seven per cent of its 118,700 global workforce, or potentially 8,000 jobs.

The layoffs will prompt a restructuring charge of up to $1.3 billion pretax in the fourth quarter. Still, the company confirmed adjusted profit guidance between $4.54 and $4.59 per share for 2009.

PHIL COALE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO

Johnson&Johnson, the world's most diversified health-products maker, saw its revenue fall five per cent in the third quarter.

Johnson&Johnson plans to simplify its business structure and projects that it will save between $1.4 billion and $1.7 billion annually after the restructuring. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GM kills sale of Opel to Magna

AUTOS General Motors has decided to keep its European Opel unit rather than sell a 55 per cent stake to Canadian auto parts maker Magna International.

The decision late yesterday at a daylong meeting in Detroit came even though Opel's unions yesterday reached agreement with Magna for $390 million US a year in cost cuts.

CEO Fritz Henderson said GM will present its plan for Opel to the German government soon. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business in brief

PROFIT DundeeWealth Inc. says a healthy balance sheet helped it turn to turn a profit in its most recent quarter and put the company in a position to consider acquisitions. The Toronto-based wealth management firm said its $12.9-million profit amounted to nine cents per share, up from a year-ago net loss of $26.6 million or 19 cents per share. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Iraq awards oil development contract
Iraq yesterday finalized a 20-year with a British-Chinese consortium to develop its biggest oilfield, the Rumaila field. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vehicle sales fall

Vehicle sales in Canada were down only one per cent in October compared to a year earlier, the smallest decline in more than a year amid growing consumer confidence.

Overall, 121,500 vehicles were sold in Canada in October, according to data compiled by DesRosiers Automotive Consultants. This compared to 122,711 a year earlier.

"The overall industry is seeing monthly sales return to levels equivalent to what they were in 2008, despite the fact that year-to-date sales for the industry remain down 13.2 per cent," said David Adams, president of the Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada.

Although several of the major brands are still posting year-over-year declines, this was offset by the large gains of other manufacturers, including Hyundai, Ford and Toyota.

General Motors clung to its top spot with 17.5 per cent of market share. GM Canada's sales were down 33.1 per cent to 18,818.

Meanwhile, Ford came in a strong second, with sales up 20.3 per cent to 18,187. This marks the company's fifth consecutive month of sales gains, boosted by the fact Ford was the only North American automaker to survive the downturn without government assistance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deal **Buffet laying tracks**

NATI HARNIK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Legendary U.S. investor Warren Buffet said yesterday he will pay a premium price for Burlington Northern Santa Fe. Berkshire Hathaway will buy America's second-largest railroad in a deal valuing the railroad at $34 billion, which gave shares of Canada's largest railways a "Buffet bounce."

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Haas recovering from H1N1

Tommy Haas, Germany's top-ranked tennis player, is recovering from swine flu. "I did a test because I suspected that I had swine flu. The test was positive," Haas said in yesterday's Bild newspaper. Haas told the paper he was already feeling better. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Bush attends Japan series

Former U.S. president George W. Bush, left, threw out the ceremonial first pitch before Game 3 of the Japan Series between the Yomiuri Giants and Nippon Ham Fighters. The Giants won the game 7-4 to take a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series, Japan's version of the World Series.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Flames score flu shots, probe ordered

Alberta to investigate after Calgary players and their families secure H1N1 vaccine

Flu Outbreak

The Alberta government has launched an investigation into how members of the Calgary Flames and their families scored swine flu shots at a special clinic as thousands of people waited in line for the vaccine or were turned away.

Alberta Health Minister Ron Liepert said he wants to know if the shots were "inappropriately diverted" to the hockey players while other Albertans stood in line for hours.

"There is only one supplier in the province and that's us," he said. "They would only be diverted with the approval of the chief medical officer of health."

Dr. Andre Corriveau, Alberta's chief medical health officer, said he first learned about the issue through the news media yesterday and declined to comment due to the investigation.

"We thought that we were working within a protocol that Alberta Health Services thought was appropriate."
Ken King, Calgary Flames president

Ken King, president of the NHL club, said the players and their families received their shots Friday at a private location. He said the organization contacted Alberta Health Services and requested the clinic based on recommendations from team doctors, the NHL and provincial guidelines in place at the time.

"We thought that we were working within a protocol that Alberta Health Services thought was appropriate," he said.

Players are at a high risk of spreading the virus "due to the fact that they have frequent physical contact, onerous domestic and cross-border travel, extreme exertion and, frankly, are in very close contact with other teams," he said yesterday.

Part of the consideration was that players are frequently recognized and could have caused a stir at a mass clinic, he said.

The revelation is one more hit for the Alberta government, which is facing mounting criticism for the way it has managed its swine flu vaccination program. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sports in brief

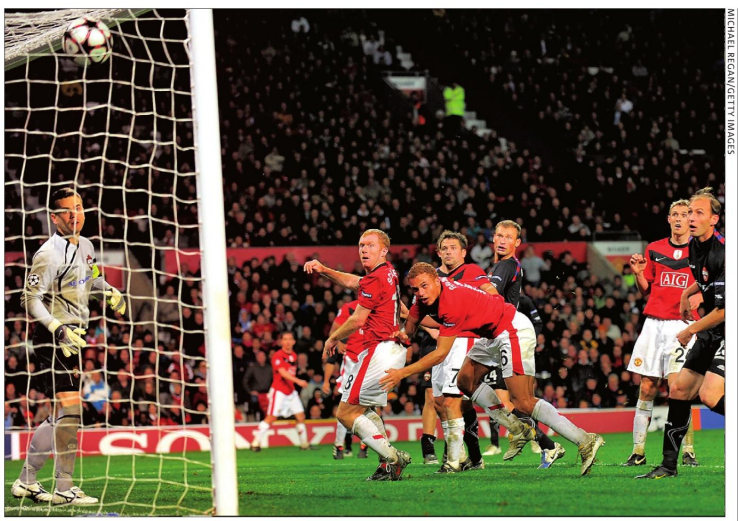
WORLD SERIES The New York Yankees will try to win their 27th World Series title tonight as they host the Philadelphia Phillies at Yankee Stadium for Game 6. Andy Pettitte is scheduled to pitch for New York, while Pedro Martinez will start for the Phillies.

CRIME The mother of New York Yankees pitcher Joba Chamberlain faces up to 20 years in prison when she's sentenced next month on a felony drug charge. Jackie Standley pleaded no contest Monday. The 44-year-old was arrested in May after selling methamphetamine to an undercover officer at her Lincoln, Neb., residence.

TENNIS Roger Federer will play an extra clay-court tournament next year to prepare for his defence of the French Open title. Federer has added the Estoril Open in Portugal next May, which he won in 2008 but skipped this year.

INDUCTED NHL great Mark Messier, world champion kayaker Caroline Brunet, ex-CFL quarterback Warren Moon, longtime Edmonton Eskimos GM Hugh Campbell, standardbred racing legend John Campbell, women's hockey star Angela James and University of Victoria basketball coach Ken Shields were all inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame yesterday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



MICHAEL REGAN/GETTY IMAGES

Manchester United's Paul Scholes scores his team's second goal against CSKA Moscow yesterday during Champions League play in Manchester, England.

Late goals help Chelsea, United advance

SOCCER Manchester United and Chelsea scored late goals yesterday to reach the next round of the Champions League with Bordeaux and FC Porto.

United trailed 3-1 at home to CSKA Moscow with six minutes left, but Paul Scholes and Antonio Valencia scored to make it 3-3 in the Group B game to give last season's runner-up the point needed to advance.

Didier Drogba scored in the 82nd and 88th to put Chelsea 2-1 up at Atletico Madrid in Group D. The 2008 finalist conceded an injury-time goal to Sergio Aguero and drew 2-2.

The two English clubs moved into the next round with Bordeaux, which won 2-0 win at Bayern Munich in Group A, and FC Porto. Four-time European champion Bayern is on the verge of elimination.

AC Milan and Real Madrid still have to play following their 1-1 draw in Italy.

In other games, Juventus won 1-0 at Maccabi Haifa in Group A; Porto won 1-0 at APOEL Nicosia; Wolfsburg won 3-0 at Besiktas in Group B; and Marseille routed FC Zurich 6-1 in Group C.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raptors' Bosh off to great start

RAPTORS Chris Bosh has had fast starts to NBA seasons before — he was blistering at this time last season, evoking thoughts of any number of individual awards — but he's more concerned these days with big finishes.

Chris Bosh

So, yes, his 31 points per game over the first three games are nice and his 14.7 rebounds per game are pretty special, but it won't matter a lick if he's only average when the NBA season really gets going.

"That was one of the major concerns coming into this summer," he said yesterday, "not only the second half of the season, but the second half of games and just being able to stay strong.

"It's easier said than done ... but I'm just trying to stay consistent, that's my main thing this year. I know last year I got off to a really good start and I really, really regressed as the season went on.

"I'm trying to keep it steady this year."

It remains to be seen if Bosh can keep up this pace, but there is no question that he's off to the best three-game start of his career. His points per game are third-best in the league, his rebound totals put him second and, while it is only a week into the season, that's nothing to sneeze at.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hefford leads Canada past Sweden

FOUR NATIONS CUP Jayna Hefford of Kingston scored a pair of goals, including one short-handed, to pace Canada to a 4-0 win over Sweden at the Four Nations Cup yesterday.

Hayley Wickenheiser of Shaunavon, Sask., had a goal and an assist, and Colleen Sostorics of Kennedy, Sask., also scored for the Canadians, who take on Finland today and the U.S. on Friday.

Kim St. Pierre of Chateauguay, Que., needed only 12 saves for the shutout, while Canada pelted Swedish counterpart Sara Grahn with 42 shots. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Del Zotto NHL's rookie of the month

New York Rangers defenceman Michael Del Zotto was named the NHL's rookie of the month for October yesterday. Del Zotto led all rookies in scoring with four goals and eight assists in 14 games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pair of Blue Jays have wonky wrists

SURGERY Toronto Blue Jays third baseman Edwin Encarnacion underwent surgery on his left wrist last week while centre-fielder Vernon Wells is expected to have surgery on his left wrist next week.

Both players should be ready ahead of spring training, the team said yesterday.

Encarnacion had a large bone spur shaved off his hamate bone Friday. He missed about two months last season with a fracture in his left wrist.

The procedure for Wells will repair some cartilage damage.

He suffered through a miserable year at the plate, hitting .260 with 15 homers and 66 RBIs in 158 games.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

SOCCER Police used a water cannon to overcome rioting soccer fans after a German second division game and detained 23 people. Twenty-seven officers were slightly hurt. The police reacted when about 500 violent supporters of Hansa Rostock tried to breach a police barrier after their club had lost to visiting St. Pauli 2-0 Monday.

BASKETBALL The New Jersey Nets say an MRI performed on forward Yi Jianlian confirmed that he has sprained a ligament in his right knee. The Nets said yesterday Yi will begin rehabilitation immediately and there is no timetable for his return.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Kaberle's the best

And that's why the Leafs should trade him

TheHockeyNews

Adam Proteau

thehockeynews.com

Don't look now, but as you read this, Tomas Kaberle might just be the best defenceman in all of hockey.

The Leafs defenceman — who led all NHL blue-liners in scoring through the first month of the season with two goals and 17 points — was named the league's player of the week Monday after leading all point-getters with two goals and 12 points in four games.

You can make an argument Kaberle's value has never been higher — and that's why Toronto general manager Brian Burke should be making some quiet-but-serious inquiries as to whether Kaberle would care to waive his no-trade clause and be moved to a real Stanley Cup contender in a trade that would help Toronto's bumpy road back to respectability.

I know what you're thinking; you're thinking, "Geez, I'd love to know where The Hockey News offices are so I could venture up there with a giant butterfly net to scoop up Mr. Proteau and deliver him to the closest psychiatric assessment centre."

I hear you. But give me a few more paragraphs to make my point.

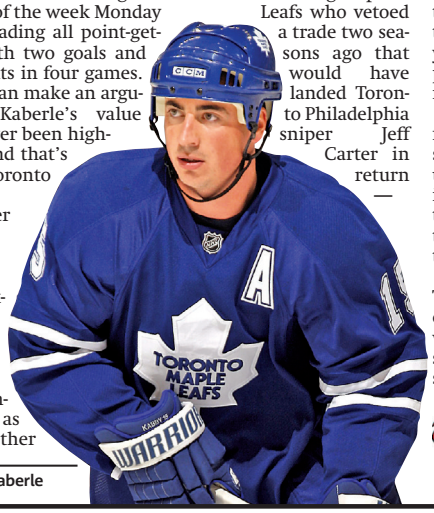
Kaberle — a charter member of the notorious Muskoka Five group of Leafs who vetoed a trade two seasons ago that would have landed Toronto Philadelphia sniper Jeff Carter in return — could make even more fans in Leaf Land by agreeing to be shipped out.

"Kaberle ... vetoed a trade two seasons ago that would have landed Toronto Philadelphia sniper Jeff Carter in return."

He's signed through next season at the relative bargain basement salary of $4.25 million — and at that rate, there's no doubt some GM will pay handsomely to add him to their roster, either with some high draft picks (to replace the picks that went out in the Phil Kessel deal) or young offensive-minded players to add to Toronto's rebuilding project.

As we saw through the first 10 games of this season, the Leafs' forward unit is dreadfully thin and in dire need of a talent transfusion. A Kaberle trade would go a long way to rectifying that.

And if Kaberle loves Toronto as much as he claims, he can come back when he becomes an unrestricted free agent in the summer of 2011.



Tomas Kaberle

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3. Kyle Turk	NS, CA	193	103	114	217
3. Paula Almeida-Stille		193	95	122	217
3. Stephen Stille	ON, CA	193	95	122	217
6. Rick Kit	ON, CA	191	93	121	214
7. Danny Chan	ON, CA	192	90	121	211
7. Stephanie Warren	NS, CA	191	93	118	211
9. Brian B	AB, CA	196	92	118	210
9. Edward Smith	NS, CA	186	94	116	210
11. Claude Brunelle	BC, CA	191	87	122	209
12. Jonathon Gremsperger	BC, CA	189	99	109	208
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Canada's best new restaurant

Reviewers have praised its emphasis on fresh local ingredients and the simplicity of its cuisine. Now, Cibo Trattoria on Seymour Street in downtown Vancouver has received another accolade: it's been named by enRoute magazine as Canada's best new restaurant. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Travel

Voluntourism ideas

The new book Frommer's 500 Places Where You Can Make a Difference (John Wiley & Sons) details numerous possibilities for voluntourism, grouping them into categories such as animal welfare, working with children, healing the environment, building better communities, peace-building and spiritual service. Service travel has been around a long time, writes author Andrew Mersmann, but "the easy availability of these trips is somewhat new." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Present perfect

London's markets are an inspired source for wallet-friendly gifts

ROMINA McGUINNESS
Metro World News

STEPHEN MCLAREN/VISITLONDONIMAGES

Left, shoppers browse for ornaments in Greenwich Market. Right, a huge candy stall at the annual Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park.

New York City may be famous for its over-the-top take on the Christmas season, but London brings a quirky exuberance to the holidays that's all its own.

Fortunately, this works very well for budget shoppers: just ducking into a high street chain such as Paperchase, paperchase.co.uk will net you delightfully creative cards and ornaments of an ilk that no one at home has likely seen before.

But the city's abundance of street markets also makes London a great place to find fabulous bits and bobs to fill up the stockings. Whether vintage, organic or eclectic, you're sure to find a gift that will make someone merry.

Broadway market

Nestled between Dalston and Hackney and facing leafy London Fields is London's best kept secret; Broadway Market. The market is eco-aware, so no plastic bags are exchanged between buyers and sellers — bring your own tote — and goods are fair trade or organic.

From edible presents to quirky crafts, Broadway offers all kinds of rich and random treats. You'll also find treasures such as ceramics, lace headbands and secondhand books; assess your bargains over a coffee and cupcake at one of the cozy cafes on the sidewalk. See broadwaymarket.co.uk.

Camden Market

Don't let the tattoo-clad locals and rock bars put you off London's most fascinating street market, which runs along Regent's Canal. Sure, it's all a little chaotic, but at its heart you'll find an inexhaustible supply of gifts. There are vintage Vivienne Westwood dresses and jewelry sourced from all corners of the world.

Read more on page 36 »

Seasonal shopping events

Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park: This seasonal fair has grown into a 20-acre mélange of rides, holiday-themed stage shows and eateries. It also contains a German Christmas Market, with more than 50 decorated chalets selling gifts and refreshments, providing an "atmospheric alternative to the High Street."

- Open Nov. 21 to Jan. 3, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., closed Christmas Day.
- hydeparkwinterwonderland.com.

Cockpit Arts Open Studios: Creativity, particularly with regards to visual design, seems to bloom in London, so a trip to see a group of the city's best artisans is always worthwhile. Cockpit Arts, a creative-business incubator, has Open Studios days at which you can meet the 165 resident designers and browse their wares. This year's pre-holiday dates at Cockpit Arts Holborn are Fri., Nov. 27 to Sun., Nov. 29. See cockpitarts.com for details.

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Disney Dream

Disney's newest cruise ship, the Disney Dream, will debut in early 2011 and feature a water coaster called the AquaDuck that sends guests racing above the upper decks of the ship; as well as an animated turtle that engages children in conversation about life in the ocean. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Following Florida's scenic highways

Plenty of snowbirds are familiar with the drive south to Florida, but a scenic route promotion program in the U.S. wants visitors to know about the best routes to drive while they're in the state.

Under the National Scenic Byways program, the highest recognition possible is the All-American Road designation. That status has just been granted to the Overseas Highway, which stretches for 205 kilometres in the Florida Keys.

Completed in 1938, the Overseas Highway incorporates 42 bridges over the waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Florida Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

Only 30 other U.S. roadways have earned the prestigious title. Keys officials expect the accolade will lead to increased tourism and additional highway funding.

"The All-American Road designation will bring status to us with international and domestic visitors, so that they know driving U.S. 1 from Key Largo to Key West is a one-of-a-kind driving experience," said Judy Hull, president of the Florida Keys Scenic Corridor Alliance that spearheaded a multiyear effort to achieve the distinction, who was in Washington for the ceremony.

"It should help us with tourism and future highway grant funding."

The Overseas Highway follows a trail originally blazed in 1912 when Standard Oil millionaire Henry Flagler completed the extension of his Florida East Coast Railroad from Miami to Key West.

In 1982, 37 of the original bridges including the Seven Mile Bridge were replaced with wider spans. Most of the historic bridges still stand alongside the newer ones and now serve as fishing piers for anglers.

At the same time, three other Florida roads were recognized as new National Scenic Byways:

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A lone palm tree on Bahia Honda Key, Fla., and the Overseas Highway, which runs for 205 kilometres through the keys.

Black Bear Scenic Byway

In the state's north central region, linking Silver Springs and the city of Ormond Beach, this route traverses some of Florida's most pristine ecosystems, centered on the Big Scrub, the world's largest scrub forest.

The byway offers access to a wide array of outdoor activities and public lands, including the Ocala National Forest,

Ormond Scenic Loop & Trail

This 50-kilometre double loop of roadways runs through some of the most beautiful and diverse natural scenery remaining in all of northeast Florida. There's ready access to the Atlantic Ocean, North Peninsula, Tomoka and Bulow Creek State Parks as well as numerous city and county parks. The roadway view includes unobstructed vistas of two rivers, creeks and marshes, barrier island dunes and beach, and historic dwellings.

Big Bend Scenic Byway

The Big Bend Scenic Byway is 355 kilometres long and can be accessed from Apalachicola in the west, Tallahassee Regional Airport in the north, or Newport in the east.

It includes outdoor experiences all along the way. such as the Forest Trail — rich with pine forests, hardwood hammocks, grasslands, streams and rivers — or the Coastal Trail of salt marshes, bays, sand dunes, and beaches.

Travellers can also look for the many species of birds, butterflies, animals and wildflowers along the route. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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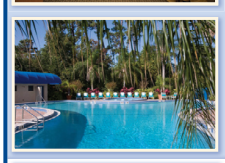

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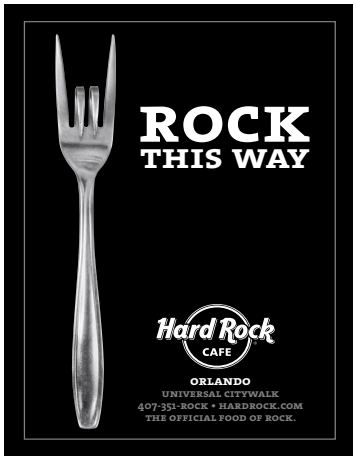

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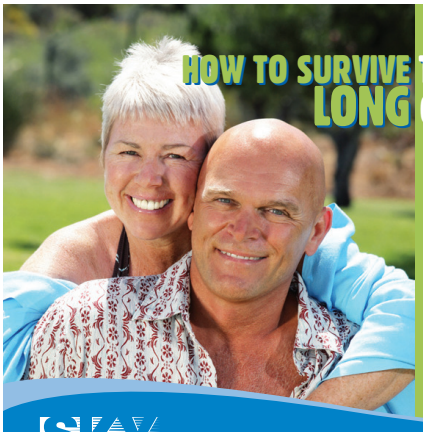

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Berlin Wall to Wall, an event being staged next month in Montreal and Quebec City, will include films and videos dating from before, during and after the fall of the Berlin Wall 20 years ago, on Nov. 9, 1989. See berlinmuramur.com. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Should travellers stay grounded?

What vacationers need to know to counter the H1N1 outbreak

Last spring thousands of travellers cancelled trips to Mexico after a swine flu outbreak there emptied beaches and resorts. But staying home won't protect you from H1N1 now.

"The thought that the virus was just a Mexico problem is gone," said Sondra Wilson, owner of several Travel Leaders travel agency locations in Washington State. "We know it's here and all around us." She said her clients are booking travel to Mexico, but trips there and elsewhere are being booked closer to departure dates than in the past.

ISRAEL LEAL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This April 30, 2009, file photo shows Kevin Solis, left and his mother Abdi Santoyo wearing protective face masks at a beach in Cancun, Mexico. At the time, the country was fighting to contain an H1N1 flu outbreak.

Q Is it OK to travel during the swine flu outbreak?

A The U.S. Centers for Disease Control, or CDC, says "some travellers at increased risk of complications from flu may want to consider postponing travel." The agency identifies those in the high-risk categories as pregnant women, adults older than 65, babies and children under five, and those with chronic illnesses. If you are in a high-risk category and must travel, the CDC recommends that you talk to a doctor about whether to take flu medications with you in case you can't get medical care right away. If you are sick, stay home.

Q How can I protect myself against swine flu? Should I wear a face mask?

A The CDC says there is little information on the effectiveness of disposable paper face masks. They are not recommended in most settings. The most important thing you can do is to wash your hands frequently with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand rub. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. To protect others, use a tissue or cough and sneeze into your sleeve.

Frequent travellers have other rituals too. Anne Banas, executive editor of SmarterTravel.com, says she cleans airplane tray tables with sanitizing wipes before using them, and she avoids putting items in the seatback pocket, where previous passengers may have stored dirty tissues.

The CDC says studies have shown that influenza virus can survive on environmental surfaces and can infect a person for two to eight hours after being deposited on the surface.

Bill Miller, who handles business development for CheapOAir.com, avoids drinking out of glasses in hotel rooms, using disposable cups and bottled water instead. He also tries to stay away from breakfast bars and other buffet meals where germs can spread.

Q If I cancel a planned trip because of H1N1 will I get a refund?

A Travel suppliers are not obligated to help but it's worth asking. Last spring, when the outbreak was at its worst in Mexico, some travel suppliers offered credits toward future trips. Some resort chains with hotels in Mexico and other locations allowed travellers to switch destinations if they had availability at hotels elsewhere, but travellers had to book new airfare.

Q Should I buy travel insurance?

A "We're telling our clients: 'Don't leave home without travel insurance,'" said Mike Weingart, president and managing director of Travel Leaders in Houston.

But traditional travel insurance only offers coverage if you become too sick to travel prior to departure or if you become sick during the trip. Traditional insurance will not cover your losses if you cancel a planned trip simply because you are worried about exposure to illness, said Judy Sutton, director of product management for Travel Insured International. To be covered in that case, you'd need a "cancel for any reason" policy, she said.

Be aware, however, that "cancel for any reason" policies usually offer only a 75 per cent reimbursement of your losses. Such policies also typically require you to cancel two days before departure, so you can't make the decision as you're boarding.

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Chicago	Travel Nov 17 - Nov 24/pd	$198 + taxes & fees $116
Rome	Travel Nov 16 - Nov 30/ua	$399 + taxes & fees $386
Moscow	Travel Dec 2 - Dec 16/ac	$599 + taxes & fees $348
Delhi	Travel Nov 25 - Dec 9/kl	$699 + taxes & fees $419

All-inclusive Vacations

Huatulco 7 Nights 4.5-Star **$398**
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Puerto Vallarta 7 Nights 4-Star	*Royal Decameron Complex*	$397 + taxes & fees $272
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Santa Lucia 7 Nights 4-Star	*Oasis Brisas*	$405 + taxes & fees $210
Departs Nov 18/swg/wg.		
Puerto Plata 7 Nights 4-Star	*Grand Paradise Playa Dorada*	$437 + taxes & fees $321
Departs Nov 16/nol/5g.		
Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star	*Mecure Playa de Oro*	$455 + taxes & fees $210
Departs Nov 24/swg/wg.		
Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star	*Holiday Inn Sunspree*	$647 + taxes & fees $269
Departs Dec 6/nol/5g.		
Panama 7 Nights 4-Star	*Royal Decameron*	$697 + taxes & fees $220
Departs Dec 7/nol/ts.		

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Mt Tremblant
Air + 3 Nights + Lift Passes $649
Le Grand Lodge Mont-Tremblant + taxes & fees $107
INCLUDES airfare into Montreal, 4-star accom and 3-day Tremblant lift passes. Departs Jan 6/ggv/ws.

Cruise Vacations

Eastern Caribbean
Air + 7-Night Cruise **$499**
Norwegian Pearl + taxes & fees $327
INCLUDES air to Fort Lauderdale and cruise-port transfers. CRUISE roundtrip Miami and visit Samana Bay, St Thomas, Tortola and Great Stirrup Cay. Travel Dec 5 - 12/vat/ts

Western Caribbean
Air + 2 Nights + 5-Night Cruise $739
Norwegian Dawn + taxes & fees $198
INCLUDES oceanview cabin, accom at Holiday Inn Miami Beach and 2-day car rental.
CRUISE roundtrip Miami and visit Grand Cayman and Cozumel. Travel Nov 14 - 21/ncl/ggv/aa.

Caribbean March Break
Air + 7-Night Cruise $1339
Norwegian Jewel + taxes & fees $358
INCLUDES air to Fort Lauderdale and cruise-port transfers. CRUISE roundtrip Miami and visit Roatan, Belize, Costa Maya and Great Stirrup Cay. Travel Mar 14 - 21/vat/ts.

Hawaiian Islands
Air + 2 Nights + 7-Night Cruise $1559
Pride of America + taxes & fees $169
INCLUDES air to Honolulu and Waikiki accom at Ohana Waikiki West. CRUISE roundtrip Honolulu and visit Maui (overnight), Hilo, Kona and Kauai (overnight). BONUS Oahu full-day tour to Pearl Harbour and Polynesian Cultural Center with airport dropoff included. Travel Nov 19 - 29/ncl/ggv/ws.

USA Vacations

Las Vegas Air + 4 Nights **$185**
Circus Circus + taxes & fees $241
INCLUDES accom on the strip.
Departs Nov 9/swg/wg.

Atlantic City Air + 3 Nights $419
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INCLUDES accom along the Atlantic City boardwalk. Departs Nov 5/ggv/aa.

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New Alaskan cruises

A new small-ship cruise line, InnerSea Discoveries, will start weeklong voyages between Ketchikan and Juneau in 2011. The routes will explore Prince of Wales Island plus the Baranof and Kuiu islands area, Frederick Sound, Admiralty Island and Endicott Arm. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

London's markets offer up holiday treasures

Continued from page 26 »

Indulge in a cup of green tea and moist carrot cake at Yumchaa, a rare oasis of piece and quiet overlooking the market place. See camdenlockmarket.com.

Greenwich Market

Situated on the bank of the Thames, the village of Greenwich — a UNESCO World Heritage site — is London... but not quite.

Located outside the central zone makes it the perfect day trip away from the hordes of shoppers. Come the festive period, the stalls are perfect for picking up original gifts that won't break the bank. Richard Crafts' handcrafted metal designs come in all kinds of shapes and sizes: The wired wonders include dancing fairies, Christmas trees and shooting stars. Make a cultural stop at Maritime Greenwich to visit the Cutty Sark, cuttysark.org.uk. the world's last remaining tea clipper ship. The local shop sells all sorts of kitschy memorabilia from Christmas cards to collector coins. See greenwichmarket.net.

Spitalfields and Sunday Up Market

Recently revamped Spitalfields is great for those wanting to experience the market vibe while shielded from rain and freezing winds; thankfully, the entire space is covered with a glass ceiling.

You'll find everything from oysters and chocolate brownies to Peruvian ponchos and vintage accessories. Cross the road over to Brick Lane for the grittier yet equally glamorous treasure trove that is the Sunday Up Market. See spitalfields.co.uk and sundayupmarket.co.uk.

Above, a shopkeeper in Camden Market. Below, a family shops for traditional sweets near Greenwich Market.

STEPHEN MCLAREN/VISITLONDONIMAGES

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Los Cabos Riu Santa Fe ★★★★★ 7 nts • Jan 11 & 18 • All Incl. • Hotel Room • from Toronto	$997 per person +$272 taxes*
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*New bookings only. Prices shown are effective from November 7 to 9, 2009 and are inclusive of any Early Booking Bonus savings. The prices are accurate at time of press and are subject to availability and change. Package prices are per person, based on double occupancy and on designated departure gateway. Packages are capacity controlled and subject to change. All prices include roundtrip flight, accommodations, transfers and hotel taxes as indicated. Additional surcharge fee may apply. For full product information and terms & conditions, refer to the Sunquest Southern Sun 2009/2010 brochure or visit Sunquest.ca. Ont. Reg. #50012702. † Bonus Sears Club™ Points offer and Don't Pay Until 2011 optional financing program applies to new bookings only made on your Sears® MasterCard® or Sears Card, on approved credit, with select participating suppliers by December 14, 2009. Offers are applicable on a minimum booking of $2000 (after applicable early booking bonuses and special offers) per couple ($2400 with select suppliers), excluding taxes, surcharges and insurance. Child rates and group and air-only bookings do not qualify. Single rates apply with a minimum booking of $2000 ($2400 with select suppliers). Triple rates apply if the first two passengers meet the minimum booking qualification. Not combinable with other offers. Total cost of the trip must be on your Sears® MasterCard® or Sears Card Account. Payment terms are as per suppliers Terms and Conditions. Optional financing program (s) and Bonus Sears Club™ Points offers are not combinable. If chosen, Bonus Sears Club™ Points will be applied to your account at month of departure. A $70 deferral billing fee (excluding Quebec) and applicable taxes and service charges will be billed to your Sears® MasterCard® or Sears Card Account at time of booking when you choose the optional financing program. The remaining balance will be billed on your Sears® MasterCard® or Sears Card Account in January 2011. When billed, any unpaid portion of your Sears® MasterCard® or Sears Card Account balance will attract credit charges, commencing on the billing date for such unpaid portion. To book and for complete terms and conditions ask your Sears Travel Consultant, call 1-866-359-7327 or visit www.searstravel.ca. Optional financing programs are not available on www.searstravel.ca. Payment options and plan details may be changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. Exceptions and restrictions apply. ©2009 Sears Canada Inc. d.b.a. Sears Travel Service. B.C. Reg.No.216-6. Ont. Reg.#2264141. Quebec Permit Holder. 290 Yonge St., Suite 700, Toronto ON, M5B 2C3. The Sears® MasterCard® and Sears Card are issued by JPMorgan Chase Bank,N.A. "Sears" is a registered trademark of Sears, licensed for use in Canada. MasterCard is a registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated.

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University of Toronto top Canadian institution: Ranking
The University of Toronto has been chosen as the top Canadian university in Shanghai Jiao Tong University's 2009 Academic Ranking of World Universities. U of T placed 27th overall. UBC, McGill, and McMaster each made the top 100. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Take your kids to work

Today is Take Our Kids to Work day, an annual national program put on by The learning Partnership in which Grade 9 students are hosted by parents, relatives and volunteers at workplaces across the country. The program supports career development by helping students connect school, the world of work and their own futures. See Thelearningpartnership.ca for more. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Neglecting your attire a no-no

When it comes to men's fashion and a job, one tailor says you can't over-dress

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Want to score that new job or put yourself in the running for a high-powered promotion at your current one? Make sure you dress the part.

Mark Salgado, manager at the House of Salgado, a family-run tailoring and fashion house in Toronto, says clothes project a lot about the personality, mood and goals of a person, especially in the workplace.

The biggest mistake Salgado sees is people dressing too casually for job interviews.

"Most people go into interviews too casual — when you walk in and are too casual, the person interviewing you might think that will be your attitude towards work," Salgado said.

While a casual look might not necessarily broadcast you as incompetent or lazy, it could very well mean that when the time comes to make personal sacrifices to get a job done, you're not likely to do it. Dressing well is therefore not only about projecting an outward appearance but an inner personality as well.

Most importantly, Salgado says you should treat dressing up for an interview with the same care and attention you'd put into dressing for a date — after all, you're trying to impress. Dress appropriately for how important the job interview is to you — if done right, you really can't go too far to look good.

"If you're going into a job interview for a job you really want, I don't know how you could be overdressed," Salgado said.

Once you've got the job, don't let your personal appearance slip. Keeping your dressing habits strong will ensure

"You need to stand out, you need to always be in (your employers') eye. You always want to be well tailored and well presented so that you'll be that person they want to keep or promote," Salgado said.

As any fan of shows like Mad Men can attest, dark colours go a long way to upping your ante.

"The darker the colour, the more prominent you are. It's a power thing — dark colours make you stand out," Salgado said.

While styles might change, Salgado says the classics are always great choices, like the white shirt, polished shoes and the pinstriped suit. When it comes to ties feel free to show off your creativity but not so much that it overpowers your overall look.

"A tie that reflects some part of your personality is fine but don't overstate it," Salgado said.

The ultimate rule of thumb for dressing for the workplace is you want to look "put together" to imply the thought and care that went into your attire will be the same you put into your job.

Nothing kills a look like ill-fitting clothing, so spend some time with a tailor and learn valuable information that will help you when buying clothing off the rack as well.

"If you have suits that don't fit, make sure they fit. You don't have to buy a new wardrobe if you get what you have altered first. If you spend 20 minutes with a tailor, the information goes with you," Salgado said.

Workplace fashion 101

- Are you a workplace fashion-flunker? Mark Salgado offers some tips to get you back at the top of the ladder:
- Buy dark and pinstriped power suits first, then get some sports jackets. Add brown suits only at the end of your collection.
- Try to wear ties as often as possible but if you absolutely must wear a shirt without a tie, make sure it's designed to be worn casual otherwise the collar will collapse and you'll look messy and unkempt.
- Iron your shirts while watching the hockey game — ironed shirts are non-negotiable.
- Don't neglect your head: Mini-fedoras are back in style and a quality hat completes an impactful look.

"Back in the day, a well-dressed man would never be seen without a hat," Salgado said.

-RAFAEL BRUSILOW

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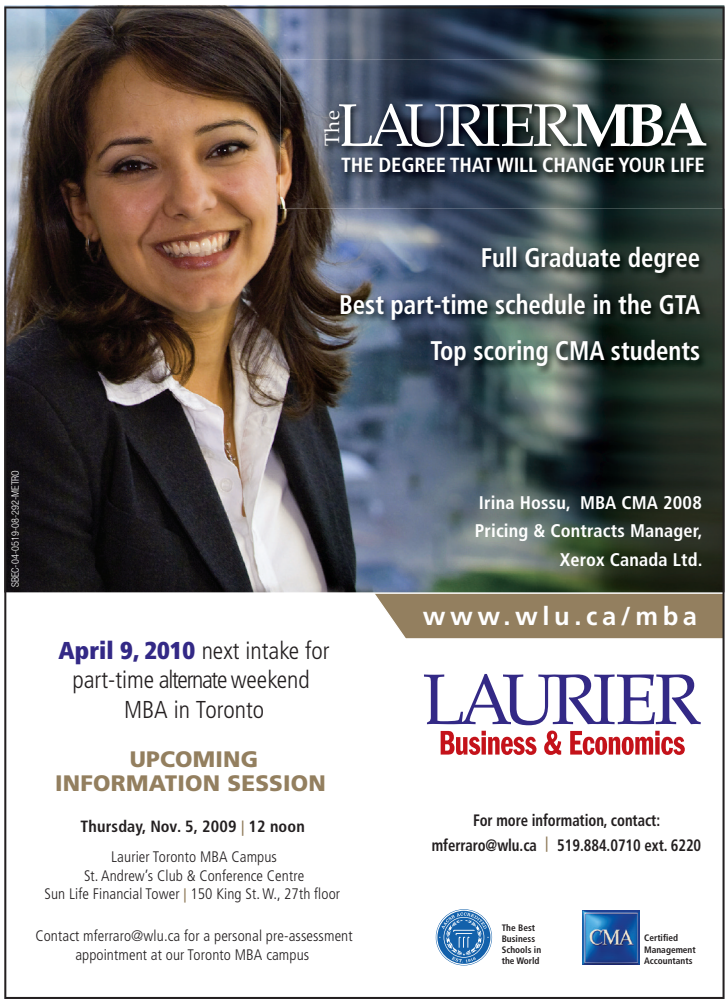

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Customs used to define Canadian employment law — not contracts. When there was a workplace dispute, judges would decide cases based on what was reasonable or just or what the parties would have agreed to if they had thought about the issue from the outset. Customs, however, have been replaced by comprehensive employment contracts and lawsuits for wrongful dismissal. Now, instead of being asked to consider what's most reasonable or fair, judges are asked whether a contract applies and, if so, what its terms represent. But what happens when a contract doesn't accurately portray the true nature of an employee's job? As Centra Windows Ltd. recently learned, sometimes workers are not bound by the agreements they have agreed to.

Having sold home insulation part time for a number of years, a more permanent relationship made sense to Syndey Smith. So, when an opportunity arose to work full time for his friend, the owner of Centra Windows Ltd., Smith did not hesitate to take on the job.

Over the years, Smith's duties increased in scope and importance. He was eventually appointed to the position of vice-president of marketing and development. But in 2004, Centra felt that Smith's performance was far below expectations and terminated him without an offer of severance because Centra felt that Smith was a contractor, not an employee.

However, after 14 years of service, Smith believed he was entitled to much more. He then challenged Centra's views in court — and recently he won.

Although Smith was not paid a salary and he incorporated his own company to invoice Centra for services, he was truly an employee, ruled the court. The true test is not what the parties call themselves in a contract, but rather how they actually behaved. Despite the lack of an "employee" label, the court concluded this relationship existed anyway.

Having a worker incorporate a business or labelling him or her as a contractor is never dispositive. If you want to employ or be employed as a contractor, then do as follows:

- Ensure that there is a clear separation between the employer's business and the contractor. Permit the contractor to perform services for others and to maintain genuine discretion over how and when to perform the job. Even an airtight independent contractor agreement will not suffice unless the parties stick to what it says.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer with Whitten & Lublin LLP. Reach him at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

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Dangerous results

In the past decade, Ontario has seen 106 fatalities and 33,739 electrical fires occur due to unsafe electrical work. To slow the tide of such mishaps, on Jan. 1, 2007 the Ontario government passed a law requiring all contracted electrical work to be performed by a licensed electrical contractor. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Many willing to trust unqualified electricians

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

A new study shows a large percentage of Ontario homeowners think it's okay to let unqualified people do their electrical work for them.

A recent Leger Marketing survey found that 45 per cent of Ontario homeowners wouldn't bother to check the credentials of contractors before hiring them to perform electrical work and up to 70 per cent of Ontario homeowners would hire a neighbour, friend or handyman to install a new light fixture, repair an electrical outlet or wire an outdoor timer — all potentially dangerous tasks if not performed properly.

Lucy Impera, registrar of licensing and certification at the Electrical Safety Authority (ESA), says the survey results show that a lack of education still exists among the public about the dangers inherent in electrical work.

"Unfortunately homeowners and the public really don't understand the seriousness of electrical work. The public tends to go for the lowest rate and they don't seem to understand the risks associated with electrical work," Impera said.

A big reason for the misunderstanding, Impera believes, stems from the fact that electrical issues don't give off the same, obvious signals as many other problems around the house.

"(Electricity) has no smell, you can't see it and it's silent. There's nothing telling you, 'Don't put your hand here,'" Impera said.

More importantly, homeowners trying to perform their own electrical work are often at the mercy of whatever work — licensed or not — that was previously performed on their home. If the previous work was not done properly, mistakes can be dangerous and even fatal, even if things seem to have worked properly in the past.

"You don't know what those previous homeowners have done. It's assumed that if you flip the switch and the light turns on the work must have been fine, but that's just not the case," Impera said.

A recent survey indicates that an alarming amount of people wouldn't bother to check the credentials of electrical contractors before hiring them.

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McMaster teaching, research assistants go on strike
Approximately 2,700 teaching and research assistants at McMaster University went on strike Monday after rejecting a "best offer" package from the university over the weekend. METRO NEWS SERVICES

What happens when dragons clash?

Dragons' Den

Dianne Buckner

metronews.ca/dragonsden

Two of the Dragons get into a spat on tonight's episode of Dragons' Den. Jim, the loveable former RCMP officer turned Boston Pizza baron, becomes royally ticked at Arlene, the marketing maven from Calgary, when she cuts him off before he's had a chance to say whether he's in or out of a deal.

Jim is a pretty easy-going guy most of the time, but you can see in this situation he is steamed.

Conflict is a completely natural part of life — it can happen anywhere and anytime, at work or at home — or at the grocery store check-out. How people handle conflict varies widely, but it's often a sign of their character, and frankly, their mental health.

The Dragons are clearly not co-workers — but none of them is the boss either. And power plays a major role in how we handle workplace conflict. You have to handle a dispute with your supervisor or your subordinate in a different way than someone who is your equal.

When I was running Venture, the CBC business show that retired from the airwaves in 2007, occasionally a team member came to me to complain about a colleague. I almost always asked if they had expressed their concerns to the person in question. It's better if peers resolve the issue themselves — when possible — instead of 'tattling' to the boss.

However it gets worked out — with the boss' help, or by the individuals involved — the important thing is that it gets worked out. Conflict that isn't addressed can turn toxic. Anger, anxiety, and lost productivity can result.

Experts say the ingredients to resolving a conflict are respect, a willingness to consider other viewpoints, and to value the legitimate needs of everyone involved.

Unfortunately there are immature adults around who just aren't willing to co-operate. But I think most people do want to do a good job, and feel comfortable in the workplace. If it's possible to tap into those positive instincts, a solution is more likely.

We don't often get to choose our colleagues — others choose them for us. The Dragons didn't choose each other — the production team made those selections. And frankly a bit of conflict makes for good TV!

It's revealing to watch how Jim and Arlene handle their conflict. Does Arlene allow Jim to participate in the deal-making? Can Jim get over his pique to play? Check it out tonight.

Dianne Buckner is the host of Dragons' Den. Tonight's episode airs at 8 p.m. on CBC. Follow Dianne on Twitter @DianneBuckner.

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TOYOTA grad program

SPECIAL FOCUS ON:
Winter Car Care

Metro Drive

Metro auto writers shine

Metro writer Mark Atkinson was runner-up in the Journalist of the Year category at the Automotive Journalists Association of Canada Awards last week. A Metro Drive article, Know Thy Insurance, was among his submissions. Metro writer Jil McIntosh also bagged awards, including one for Environmental Journalism. METRO NEW SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Clockwise from bottom left, Ford Taurus, Mazda3Sport, Subaru Outback and VW Golf GTI were among the category winners at the AJAC Awards last weekend.

Beep! The winners are here

MARK ATKINSON and JIL MCINTOSH for Metro Canada

Last weekend, the Automotive Journalists Association of Canada announced its category winners for the year during its Test Fest event. Metro writers Jil McIntosh and Mark Atkinson were among the automotive experts at the AJAC event who were invited to get behind the wheels of 157 new vehicles and make their picks. Here's the list of the category winners and what our experts have to say about them:

MAZDA3: BEST NEW SMALL CAR (UNDER $21K)

MARK ATKINSON: Mazda's smart update to the popular 3 sedan hits all the right notes. The updated design, revvy engine and nimble reflexes make this one entry-level car that doesn't feel like a penalty box.

JIL MCINTOSH: The inaugural Mazda3 took Car of the Year in 2004, and could possibly do it again. Razor-sharp handling remains a key feature, although electronic stability control isn't part of the $20,595 as-tested price.

MAZDA3 SPORT: BEST NEW SMALL CAR (OVER $21K)

MA: The hatchback version of the Mazda3 offers up a more powerful engine, new dramatic sheetmetal and a classier cabin, but still brings great value and fun to Canada's most popular car class.

JM: Hatchback styling and great performance blend with 2.5-litre, 167-horsepower four-cylinder engine. The interior looks great.

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF WAGON: TDI BEST NEW FAMILY CAR (UNDER $30K)

MA: Don't be confused by the name change — the new Volkswagen Golf Wagon is last year's Jetta Wagon with a facelift, a great new audio/nav system and some new badges. Carryover turbodiesel engine is excellent.

JM: VW Golf returns for 2010; this new wagon replaces the 2009 Jetta Wagon. Powerful, smooth diesel engine uses a combined 5.8 L/100 km; a full array of safety features is standard.

FORD TAURUS: BEST NEW FAMILY CAR (OVER $30K)

MA: The best name reincarnation yet, the brand new Taurus is not the abused-rental-car of old. Classy lines, great interior space, a powerful engine, good dynamics and a long list of standard features highlight Ford's big turnaround.

JM: Taurus name returns on an all-new Ford flagship. Roomy and smooth-riding, it uses a 3.5-litre V6, six-speed automatic, and all-wheel-drive; standard MyKey feature lets parents limit speed and radio volume for young drivers.

BMW 335D SEDAN: BEST NEW LUXURY CAR

MA: Compact dimensions and a torque-monster turbodiesel engine give the 335d Sedan nimble dynamics, excellent acceleration and over 1,000 km to every tank of fuel.

JM: The world's bestselling premium sedan makes a whopping 425 lb-ft of torque equipped with this 3.0-litre diesel engine. Optional sport suspension further improves the already-tight handling.

Continued on page 44 ››

Top award coming

- The Canadian Car of the Year Award and the Utility Vehicle of the Year will be voted on by AJAC members over the next few weeks and will be announced in February at the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto.

Tire pressure key to safety in winter

PROPER INFLATION Make sure you practice proper tire inflation techniques before the snow flies or you could find yourself needing a tow truck, or worse, an ambulance.

Since the air pressure in tires supports the weight of your car, it is absolutely vital that you inflate your tires to just the right degree. This is especially important in winter when tires lose their pressure faster in colder weather.

Here are a few tips from Transport Canada to maintain proper winter tire inflation:

- Measure your tire inflation at least once a month;
- Measure the pressure when the tires are cold (after two hours of non-use or less than two kilometres of driving). Tires lose pressure when the air temperature gets colder (about seven kilopascals, or one pound per square inch, for every 5°C drop in temperature).
- Inflate your tires to the recommended pressures printed on the label inside your car or in your owner's manual;

For more maintenance tips, visit tc.gc.ca/roadsafety/tp/tp2823/inflating.htm

NEWS CANADA

Keeping tab on tire pressure is crucial during winter. More winter tire coverage on pg. 46.

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Breeze through the freeze

The right accessories can make all the difference in winter

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

November's blustery winds should be the trigger that gets people into winter driving mode, but inevitably, many of us continue blindly into our coldest season unprepared. It happens every year — once the first snowfall hits, only then will the local service shops be filled to capacity with those scrambling to get pre-winter work done, or booking the body-shop after an unintended collision.

Now is the perfect time to get the jump on winter preparation, so Metro gathered some tips on how you can keep safe on the road, and how to stay alive if you do end up going off.

STOCK PHOTO

A snow brush and a ice scraper are must-have accessories during winter months.

VISIBILITY

To have visibility during all winter weather conditions, it is important to have the right necessities available.

Keep a snow brush and ice scraper in your vehicle at all times during the winter months. If your car is often parked outdoors, invest in a winter windshield cover to keep snow, frost and ice off of your windshield.

Also, top-up on windshield fluid for extreme temperatures and always keep an extra jug in the trunk.

CHECK-UP

Prior to the start of any new season, make an appointment to have your vehicle fully serviced, especially prior to winter, when weather elements can affect many performance elements of the vehicle. Have your battery and charging system checked to ensure it will have enough power to start the car on cold mornings. Check wiper blades for signs of wear and cracking and replace if necessary. Better yet, change to heavy-duty winter blades like Teflon wiper blades. Also, extreme cold is hard on the engine oil. An oil change and new filter are good ideas for the change in season.

PACK A VEHICLE EMERGENCY KIT

Keep the following items on-hand in your car, in the event you are ever stuck or stranded:

- Cellphone with hands-free option
- Emergency car starter
- Gloves and hat
- Shovel
- Flashlight
- Jumper cables

MORE TIPS TO GET YOU STARTED

- Make sure you sweep and scrape all the ice and snow off your car before you drive off. It's extremely dangerous not only to you, but also to the others who follow in your wake.
- While having a cellphone with you for emergencies is great, don't distract yourself by using it when driving. In four provinces and counting, this is illegal anyway, but it's poor judgement in all of them. Use your vehicle's built-in Bluetooth if it is so equipped, or invest is a generic hands-free kit.
- Install winter tires (see story on page 46).

Warming up

- Canadian winters can be bitterly cold, so warming up your car is essential. Depending on where you live, 60 seconds might be all the time you need. According to Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), warming up your car for more than 60 seconds can be an expensive, inefficient and a harmful waste of fuel.

In cold weather, use a block heater on a timer for two hours and then start driving easy and let the car warm up on the road. Letting your car idle in the driveway for more than 60 seconds, either by a remote starter or starting it yourself, wastes fuel and does not adequately warm up all your vehicle components such as the transmission, tires or the catalytic converter.

Driving your car "smooth and easy" is the best way to warm up your vehicle's components.

If drivers avoided idling by just three minutes a day over the year, Canadians would collectively save 630 million litres of fuel, and $630 million in fuel costs (assuming a fuel cost of $1.00/L).

- NRCan has more winter driving tips at vehicles.nrcan.gc.ca.

NEWS CANADA

Canadian auto journalists pick top cars of the year

>> Continued from page 43

PORSCHE PANAMERA: BEST NEW PRESTIGE CAR

MA: This will hopefully end the arguments over whether the Panamera is a true Porsche. Had faster acceleration and better handling than the Audi R8 5.2 FSI, and equalled the BMW 750i for interior luxury.

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GTI: BEST NEW SPORTS/PERFORMANCE CAR (UNDER $50K)

JM: At 200 horsepower, the lightweight GTI spins on a dime, sticks in the corners, and eats asphalt for dinner.

AUDI S4: BEST NEW SPORTS/PERFORMANCE CAR (OVER $50K)

MA: It's not often that manufacturers offer fewer cylinders in their top-line sports machines, but Audi's move to a supercharged V6 from the previous V8 means less weight, better fuel consumption, and improved handling.

AUDI A5 CABRIOLET: BEST NEW CONVERTIBLE

JM: A soft top may seem outdated against retractable hardtops, but weight is significantly reduced. Four-cylinder engine delivers 211 horsepower; creamy-smooth steering makes this four-seater an all-day treat whether the roof's up or down.

The Porsche Panamera won the prestige car category

SUBARU OUTBACK: BEST NEW SUV/CUV (UNDER $35K)

MA: Subaru addressed the main complaint of the previous-generation Outback by stretching and widening the chassis. Now there's limo-like space in the back of the tastefully redone cabin. PZEV engine is enviro-conscious without the smugness.

VOLKSWAGEN TOUAREG TDI CLEAN DIESEL: BEST NEW SUV/CUV ($35K-$60K)

MA: Like the 335d, the VW Touareg TDI Clean Diesel won more for its new turbodiesel engine than for anything overly excellent and new. Torque, smooth acceleration and fantastic fuel mileage highlight this off-road-ready Vee-Dub.

- Visit metronews.ca/auto for a complete list of winners.and more expert opinion.

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The winter tire way

You may save money in the long run, expert says

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

It's the same questions every time the snow flies: Should I get winter tires? Aren't all-seasons good enough? Why spend the extra money when I've never had a problem before?

"One of the most important factors in starting, steering or stopping on ice and snow is your tires," says Mark Cox, director of the Bridgestone Winter Driving School in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

"It makes no difference if you have a front-wheel, four-wheel or rear-wheel drive, your vehicle will perform better in most winter driving conditions if it is equipped with purpose-built winter tires instead of all-season radials."

Can you use all-season tires all year? "Tire manufacturers have certainly come a long way in improving winter traction of their all-season tires, but a dedicated winter tire is designed specifically to handle winter driving needs," Cox continues. "And with more areas outlawing or limiting the use of studded snow tires, studless snow tires are becoming more popular."

ISTOCK PHOTO

Changing to winter tires may make your summer or all-season tires last longer.

A Canadian Tire spokesman advises that "winter tires should be used once the temperature hits seven degree Celsius or lower, as this is when all-season tires begin to lose elasticity, resulting in reduced traction. Winter tires retain their elasticity to grip at much lower temperatures. This provides improved traction for starting, cornering and stopping and can transform the handling of cars."

As for the myth of being more expensive, an article on Toyo Tires Canada's website states that "changing from winter tires to summer or all-season tires is a bit of a hassle, but the only cost incurred is the cost of remounting your tires. Winter tires used during the months when they are designed will last for many years, extending the life of your summer tires. It can actually save you money when considering the costs of replacing a high-performance tire sooner. A way to reduce the changeover cost is to have a second set of steel rims with snow tires already mounted."

Some winter tire options

Bridgestone Blizzak WS60

• No studs needed. This latest edition of the "Winter Biter" tire by Blizzak gives you confidence in traction when it freezes and security in braking when it melts. Exclusive multiple Bridgestone technologies work together with the added reinforcement of RC polymer to further enhance grip in severe ice and snow conditions. Its zigzag sipes improve snow and ice traction by increasing the number of biting edges, while the wide straight groove improves water evacuation to increase traction. The riblets further improve traction on ice, while the multicell compound uses millions of microscopic pores to remove the thin layer of surface water.

MotoMaster Total Terrain W/T

• This winter tire designed for SUVs, CUVs and light trucks uses D-squared sipe technology to further enhance winter performance while maintaining excellent wet traction throughout the life of the tire. Patented "Snow-Groove" design technology provides biting edges for excellent snow and ice traction without reducing element stiffness. The sawtooth centre circumferential rib and block tread enhance stability and even treadwear in all types of weather conditions. The Total Terrain W/T is moulded to accept studs where permitted by provincial law.

Toyo Observe G-02 plus

• The TOYO OBSERVE G-02 plus is designed to deliver a secure winter ride with added comfort in the worst Canadian winter conditions. Advanced tread design and tread compound with a wide footprint give the OBSERVE G-02 plus increased all-around winter performance. Wide Contact Patch brings better dry and wet handling, ice braking and tread life. Increased sipe density improves water evacuation resulting in improved levels of ice traction, while larger wave sipes increases lateral traction on ice and other slippery surfaces. The microbit compound improved studless tire technology, increasing traction and braking on ice and compacted snow.

MARK ATKINSON/
FOR METRO CANADA

Changes to your driving style will keep you safer in winter, says Young Drivers of Canada's Scott Marshall.

Different season, different driving

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

Preparation, anticipation and reaction: they're vital keys to driving safely and confidently in winter weather. Just as you switch your T-shirt for coat and mittens, you need to adjust your driving habits from summer to winter.

"People seem surprised and shocked that a wet, slippery road isn't going to stop them as fast as a dry road," says Scott Marshall, director of training for Young Drivers of Canada.

On the road, leave more space between your car and others ahead than you might in summer.

"Most drivers forget that in order to respond to a driver in front, we need time to see, to react, and then to stop," Marshall says. "All year round, people make the mistake of allowing a couple of car lengths. It should be at least two seconds instead, and if the road is snow-covered, double that space. Always have a space beside you at all times."

"People seem surprised and shocked that a wet, slippery road isn't going to stop them as fast as a dry road."
Scott Marshall of Young Drivers of Canada

Many drivers dread "black ice," a thin frozen layer that's often difficult to see, and which claims a huge number of drivers each season. Rather than fear it, you should anticipate it, Marshall says. "You can predict where it might be. It will be in areas where the sun doesn't melt it, like a tree-laden road, or under bridges or tunnels."

• More safety tips on safedriving.wordpress.com

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LTZ model shown††

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CITY: 10.5 L/100 km – 27 mpg†

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LT model shown with team Canada Edition Package††

LTZ model shown††

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HWY: 8.4 L/100 km – 34 mpg
CITY: 12.7 L/100 km – 22 mpg†

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Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Chevrolet Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealer order or trade may be required. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time offer which may not be combined with other offers. See your dealer for conditions and details. ΔBased on 2009 Natural Resources Canada Fuel Consumption Ratings. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on road conditions, driving habits and vehicle's options. Comparison based on 2010 Chevrolet Traverse AWD 8 seat CUV/SUV vs. 2010 Ford Flex AWD 8 seat CUV/SUV. ◊Based on 2009 Chevrolet Aveo 4-door sedan frontal crash test ratings. Go to www.safercar.gov for more information. ◊◊Based on 2010 Chevrolet Malibu LS, 2010 Chevrolet Malibu LTZ, MSRP $32,255. Chevrolet Traverse LTZ, MSRP $47,525. Kia Sportage models, including Sportage AWD V6 SX Limited (V6 engine, 6-speed automatic transmission), MSRP $41,995. Chevrolet Traverse LT, MSRP $34,710. 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Know your winter aids

This is a cautionary tale about chains and electronic aids.

And some of you can get your mind out of the gutter right now. No time for distracting thoughts.

We need to discuss the double-edge nature of bad-weather driving technologies, and we need to discuss it pronto — the white stuff is due any day now.

Once upon a time, a tire chain was a "state of the art" technology for getting around in wintry situations.

Today's automotive technologies make good use of electronics and computers. The four main ones we now harness to move around better in winter are: anti-lock braking systems (ABS), traction control systems, stability management systems, and all wheel drive.

They are all, in a word, "awesome."

But they're not miracle workers — they still have to obey the laws of physics.

Anti-lock braking system (ABS) is a winter-friendly technology but drivers need to know how to use it, Michael Goetz says.

And if drivers overestimate their capacity to help and/or have absolutely no experience with them before the winter-driving sphincter moment arrives, then they have the potential to be the exact opposite of helpful.

Pierre Savoy is a professional driving instructor. One of his gigs is conducting BMW Canada's Winter Driving School every year somewhere in snowy Quebec. It is his learned opinion that most people are woefully unfamiliar with the operation and intent of these systems.

"Most people don't know how to use them, or what to do when they are activated, or even what they feel like when they are activated," says Savoy. "When I do driving training I get people to activate their ABS brakes, and it's often the first time they do. And what happens? They take their foot off because of the ruckus."

The correct response would be to keep the brake pedal plastered to the floorboards, and realize that the ruckus is caused by brakes violently cycling on and off, so the wheels slow down dramatically but not lock-up. This technique not only gets you stopped in the shortest possible distance, but also allows you to continue steering, hopefully around any thing you need to get around.

Savoy says traction control and stability control offer the same opportunities for confusion. They automatically apply brakes and/or shut down engine power, to get the car moving, or slowed down and under control when its swaying — not the most gentlest of experiences. And if you're not expecting it and wondering what's happening to your universe at that moment, well, then it becomes just more excitement you'll need to process at that juncture.

That's why Savoy advocates taking your car out to some safe place to try all this stuff out, before you experience it in anger on some icy road in the middle of the night.

Like we said at the top, these are "aids." They are there to help, not as a substitution for proper decision-making. That's not to say anyone should not indulge in improper decision making from time to time. Just not behind the wheel.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.

The Mitsubishi iMiEV

Mitsu iMiEV's got speed

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

2010 Mitsubishi iMiEV

Type: Subcompact sedan
Price: Not available
Engine: 300-volt permanent synchronous magnet/inverter (62 ho, 133 lb/ft)

ROAD TEST I have driven the future and it is quiet.

It's generally believed the future is plug-in electric cars. But you don't to wait for the end of the next decade to get one.

The Mitsubishi innovative Electric Vehicle or i-MiEV (pronounced I-My-Eve) is not a glorified golf cart but a true four-seat plug-in electric subcompact sedan that can travel up to 120 km and, if need be, 130 km/h on the highway.

It's actually simpler to operate than a car because there's a lot less to worry about like a transmission, water and oil levels and temperatures, no emissions, and of course, no service stations.

As a true plug-in, it can be charged from any household 110-volt outlet in 14 hours and half that from a 220-volt outlet. If the owner installs a 200-volt three-phase quick charging machine, the i-MiEV can pack in an 80 per cent punch in 30 minutes.

What's most surprising is how fast the i-MiEV goes. If you've ever ridden a streetcar, you know how quick it gets up to speed.

The 300-volt motor puts out 47 kW or roughly 63 hp. Yet it also produces 133 ft/lb of torque, more than a Honda Civic. At 1,080 kg (2,376 lb), it also weighs less than most compacts and a few subcompacts to boot.

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Griffin ready to dance
Kathy Griffin will host ABC's new show Let's Dance, in which celebrity contestants will re-enact famous routines. It will premiere at 9:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 23, after the Dancing With the Stars performance finale. EW.COM

Entertainment

New faces
MAC has tapped Lady Gaga and Cyndi Lauper to be the new faces of the MAC AIDS Fund. The campaign, called From Our Lips, will launch in February according to Women's Wear Daily. METRO WORLD NEWS

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Scrooge reborn ... again

BY RICHARD CROUSE
For Metro Canada

IMDB lists 70 entries for the character Ebenezer Scrooge. Everyone from Jack Palance to Vanessa Williams (her character was called Ebony Scrooge) have "bah humbugged" their way through the role.

This weekend Jim Carrey joins that list in a big budget Disney motion capture version of A Christmas Carol. But why have the character and the story of the man who hated Christmas stayed popular since Charles Dickens penned it 166 years ago?

A Christmas Carol opens in theatres this Friday

The first reason may have appealed to old

Movie feature

Scrooge's frugal nature. The story is in public domain, meaning there are no pesky payments to the Dickens family for using the character, but to be made (the first film came in 1901) remade (21 times on film and dozens more made for TV) then turned on its head and remade again and again, there must be something else about the story's humbuggery that resonates with viewers. The Life and Times of Ebenezer Scrooge author Paul Davis says the story is one of those rarities that is so familiar it's almost part of our collective DNA.

Jim Carrey, right, is the latest actor to play Scrooge in the upcoming Disney version of A Christmas Carol.

"My acquaintance with Scrooge seems preliterate," he wrote, "different from my sense of ... Dr. Doolittle or Robinson Crusoe. I remember when I first met the Hardy Boys, but I feel as though I've always known Scrooge and Tiny Tim."

Some scholars think the story's ability to seem current, no matter when it is restaged, is a major selling point.

"What it all boils down to is that A Christmas Carol is that rare and precious thing, a story for the ages," said the Washington Post's Jonathan Yardley, "like other such stories — the Bible ... the plays of Shakespeare — becomes a distinct and different entity in each age."

Perhaps these days of economic uncertainty have given the story a timely slant as Scrooge's penny-pinching ways could be seen as something to be emulated. The bottom line, however, may be the simplest explanation of all; A Christmas Carol is a tale of redemption that confirms the fundamental spiritual nature of Christmas itself. In other words, it makes us feel good.

Carey's carol

• Playing Ebenezer Scrooge in the new 3-D animation version of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol was a different acting experience for Jim Carey. That's because the movie uses motion-capture technology. The face the digital artists came up with for Scrooge was disconcerting, Carrey admits. "When I saw the movie, one of the first things I said was, 'My family is going to have a heart attack. That is my father.'" For inspiration, Carrey looked to the famous Scrooges of the past, particularly Alastair Sim, from 1951's Scrooge. – NED EHRBAR/ METRO WORLD NEWS

Lost star guests on Law & Order: SVU
Lost star Naveen Andrews has signed on to film a guest spot on an episode of Law & Order: SVU. The details of his role are being kept under wraps. TVGUIDE.COM

Eustace dishes on split

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Divorce sucks in general. But to have your divorce played out in public can reach new heights of ... well ... sucking.

"Divorce really kicks your ass," says Mary Jo Eustace, who woke up one day to find out her husband, actor Dean McDermott, had left her for Hollywood starlet Tori Spelling.

Cue the tabloid frenzy.

"I'd get constant calls to sell my story or to be on reality shows. Friends sold stories about me to the tabloids. And I was constantly portrayed as this bitter, old, crazy ex-wife. Just lie after lie."

Eustace — best known for her cooking series What's For Dinner and He Said, She Said — did eventually get through it, turning her divorce experience into her just-released book, Divorce Sucks.

It's a part tell-all, part no-nonsense guide on what to do (and definitely not do) during a divorce.

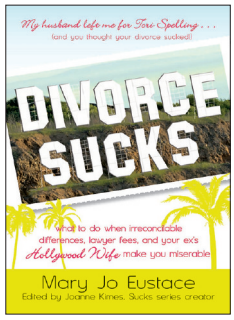
Mary Jo Eustace, turned her divorce experience — from reality TV star Dean McDermott — into the just-released book Divorce Sucks.

Which begs the question — why would she want to relive such a terrible experience?

"I think the book was a perfect combination where I could be funny, and help people by sharing my personal stories," she says. "Divorce is not something people talk about. They assume it won't happen to them. And when it does, it can be horrendous."

In Divorce Sucks, Eustace's own experiences occasionally border on the bizarre. Like her questionable decision to meet the "other woman, Spelling, only to have Spelling use that encounter as fodder for her own autobiographic book.

"My experiences are by no means the worst," claims Eustace. "The divorce stories I've heard from people can be scary — everything from being locked out of their houses, to hiding assets, to stealing the family dog."



Eustace — who is originally from Toronto and currently lives in Los Angeles with her two children — says the underlying message of her book is learning to like yourself post-divorce.

"It's about accepting that you're worthy to enjoy life again, and patting yourself on the back. If you're able to do that, it's a major thing," she says. "If you're angry and bitter, you're not going to enjoy your new life."

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Polanski appeals to courts again

Roman Polanski has appealed again to the Swiss courts to be released from prison on bail, officials said yesterday, the latest step in the director's protracted legal battle to avoid extradition to the United States.

The Swiss Criminal Court declined to comment on the contents of the appeal, but the Justice Ministry said it was an offer that the government has already turned down in part because it lacked a cash guarantee.

Folco Galli, the Justice Ministry spokesman, said it was an appeal of a release request that was rejected last week. Such reappeals are common under Swiss law.

The 76-year-old filmmaker has suffered a string of setbacks since he was arrested Sept. 26 in Zurich as he arrived to receive a lifetime achievement award from a film festival. Authorities in Los Angeles want him extradited for having sex in 1977 with a 13-year-old girl.

The court confirmed yesterday that it received the appeal, a day after a lawyer for Polanski said the request had been filed and included adequate guarantees that he would not flee justice if released. Attorney Herve Temime had earlier said the appeal would include a significant cash amount but did not repeat the claim on Monday.

Court official Patrick Guidon declined to say when a verdict might be expected.

Polanski is asking for the Swiss court to reverse the government's decision to reject bail because of the high risk he would flee the country, Galli said.

The director of such film classics as Rosemary's Baby and Chinatown was accused of raping the 13-year-old girl after plying her with champagne and a Quaalude pill during a modeling shoot in 1977.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Roman Polanski

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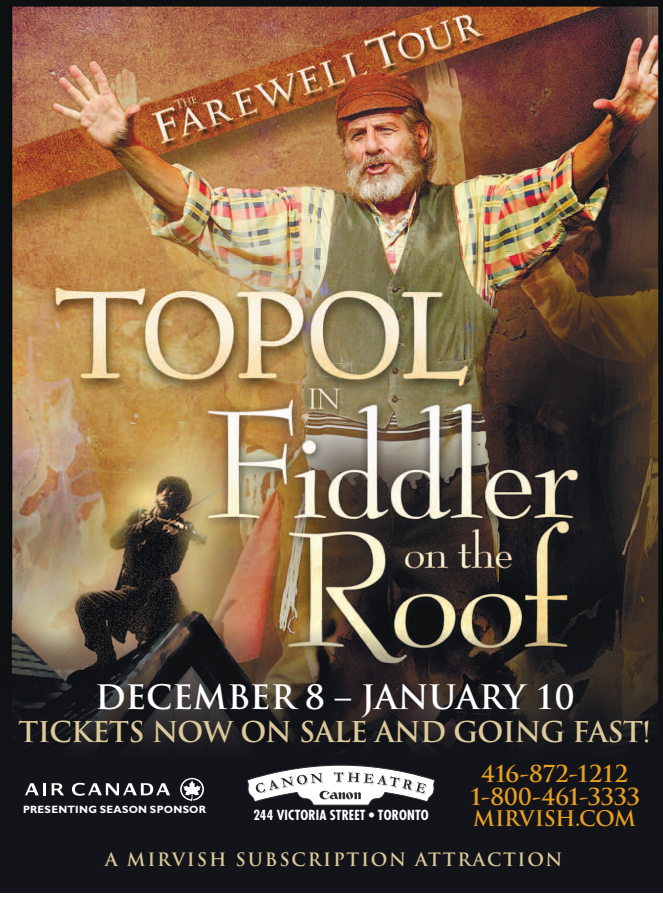

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Rob Thomas grows up

Matchbox 20 frontman gets personal on latest solo album

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

When Rob Thomas wrote Matchbox 20's debut disc in 1996, he thought he knew what life was all about. He penned songs about love and heartbreak, tracks that millions of people connected to, but what he says now was "speculation."

"When you're in your 20s it's the biggest thing in the world when a girl leaves you," he says. "When you get older and experience real love and loss it comes from a different place that's true."

He knows what he's talking about. At 37 the singer-songwriter has already lost his mother and his wife is battling a rare autoimmune disorder. That's made his sophomore solo album, Cradlesong, which came out in June, one of his most personal records yet.

Cradlesong is the second solo album from Rob Thomas.

"I'm writing from the same place, but now I have real experiences to draw on," he explains. "Not my 20-something fabricated idea."

Although Thomas was projecting what he thought love and loss should be like on his older records, he still relates to some of the tunes. His most famous song, 3 A.M., even feels somewhat new.

"I wrote that when I was 20," he says. "It was about my mom having cancer and me being young and dealing with that. They gave her six months to live. She died, but not from cancer. Now that she's passed away I play it with a tinge of sadness. I've never played it like that before. Now that I've evolved I can reconnect with certain things in a new way."

What he hasn't revisited, however, is his band's old sound. While his latest disc is still planted in the radio-friendly boy-next-door sort of feel, Thomas' music is more polished and ready for romantic comedy soundtracks than ever before. It's not quite as bubbly or frat-like as it used to be. In fact, the material on this disc is his darkest.

"It wasn't meant to be that way," he insists. "But when I feel sad or depressed I immediately write. That comes out in my songs. Playing music frees me up to be happy."

In Concert

- Rob Thomas performs at Toronto's Massey Hall tonight.

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Lucasfilm renews court battle over Star Wars costumes
The George Lucas empire struck back with a renewed court battle against a British prop designer who sold replicas of the iconic Stormtrooper uniforms. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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- Feeling unable to cope

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'Colbert Nation' headed to the Olympic rinks

2010 GAMES Of the many countries participating at the Vancouver Olympics, add Colbert Nation to the list.

On Monday's The Colbert Report, Stephen Colbert announced his show has become the primary sponsor of the U.S. Speedskating team. The team's largest annual cash sponsor, DSB Bank NV, left the team in the lurch after it declared bankruptcy in October.

Stephen Colbert

The name Colbert Nation — the catchall for the legion of ardent fans of the satirical Comedy Central program — will be emblazoned on the team's uniforms.

"On their enormous, billboard thighs, it will say, 'Colbert Nation,'" Colbert said in an interview before Monday evening's taping. "Be looking for that logo as it comes around the final turn. It will be easy to see because it will be in first place."

The show isn't paying the team any money directly. Instead, Colbert is calling on his fans to donate to the team via www.colbertnation.com and www.usspeedskating.org. In the past, Colbert has had a great deal of success raising money this way.

He has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Yellow Ribbon Fund, a charity that assists injured U.S. service members and their families. The Dutch bank DSB was to pay $300,000 for the sponsorship but failed to make any payments. That put U.S. Speedskating in a difficult position with little time to court new sponsors before the games begin in February. U.S. Speedskating executive director Robert Crowley, who appeared on Monday's show, said it would generate exposure for the sport.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mix of Six

Reading
The Palais Royale, 1601 Lakeshore Blvd. W.

Anne Michaels, Ian Brown and Wayson Choy are among the authors taking part in Read for the Cure at 6:30 p.m. $75. readforthecure.ca.

Opera
Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen St. W.

Opera takes over the Drake Hotel tonight with The Ladies Of The Lakes concert and dinner as part of the Alphabet City Festival. 7 pm. $105. alphabetcity.org.

Theatre
Through Saturday, Campbell House Museum, 160 Queen St. W.

Henry James The Turn Of The Screw by Henry James is being performed by DVxT Theatre Company. dvxt.com

Preview
Tarragon Theatre

Rocking The Cradle by Des Walsh, about a Newfoundland woman driven to extremes by her wish for a child, is currently being previewed. tarragontheatre.com

Music
Massey Hall, 178 Victoria St.

Matchbox Twenty's Rob Thomas performs tonight. $85.50 to $49.50. roythomson.com

Basketball
Air Canada Centre

The Toronto Raptors take on the Detroit Pistons tonight at 7 p.m. nba.com/raptors.

Entertainment in brief

REALITY TV Kirstie Alley is going to star in a new A&E reality "docu-series" about her life as a single mom and her efforts to lose weight. The network has ordered 10 half-hour episodes of the untitled series.

BURGLARY Search warrant records show dozens of diamond rings, high-end shoes, bags, guns and drugs have been seized from the homes of three people suspected of burglarizing celebrities' residences.

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Soderbergh to write play
Steven Soderbergh has signed on to write a play about the death of Florida toddler Caylee Anthony. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Grisham's short tales

It's hard to sell a book of short stories. But not if you're John Grisham.

The author of A Time to Kill, The Client and other blockbusters has written his first collection of short fiction, Ford County, set in the Mississippi community he has used often in his fiction.

Grisham's latest — much of it based on his years as a criminal defence and personal litigation lawyer in Southaven, Miss. — includes tales of a dull, dumped husband redeemed by gambling, a ruthless attorney confronted by some old victims and a bunch of buddies who plan to give blood to a hospitalized friend, but have a few drinks along the way.

Story collections rarely sell more than a few thousand copies but demand for Ford County has been so high that it was caught in the publishing price wars, with Walmart.com and Amazon.com among those offering pre-orders of the US$24 hardcover for $9 or less. Yesterday, the book's official release date, Amazon was still selling it for $9.

BEBETO MATTHEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Renowned American author John Grisham's first book of short stories, Ford County, is based on his years as lawyer in Southaven.

Wearing a checked brown blazer and light blue shirt — no tie — the 54-year-old author met with The Associated Press on Tuesday and discussed short stories, lawyers, and clients.

"The truth of it is that most of the lawyers I knew way back then, and still know, are honest, hard-working people who don't make a lot of money, in a small town," he said.

"Nobody wants to read about those guys. That's pretty dull. You want to read about a guy who stole money and faked his death or whatever, took off.

"There's a general feeling of unhappiness and lack of fulfilment among many lawyers in small towns. They went to law school and now they're in a small town and maybe it's not what they thought it would be. It's just not as fulfilling.

"A lot of them are unhappy. And there's a sense of longing for escape, to get out of it and go do something else, whether it's a different profession or different locale, just to get out of it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not guilty plea in Seacrest case

LEGAL A man arrested outside Ryan Seacrest's workplace has pleaded not guilty to a felony stalking charge.

Chidi Benjamin Uzomah Jr. entered the plea Tuesday through an attorney. A court commissioner ordered Uzomah to stay 500 yards (457 metres) away from Seacrest if he is released from jail on US$150,000 bail.

Los Angeles police arrested Uzomah at the E! Entertainment Television headquarters in Los Angeles on Friday. A request for a civil restraining order stated he was carrying a knife at the time.

Uzomah appeared in street clothes during Tuesday's hearing and agreed to be represented by a public defender. He is due back in court Nov. 16.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

FILM Jim Carrey, Colin Firth and Bob Hoskins appeared in central London to switch on the city's Christmas lights and attend the world premiere of 3-D film, A Christmas Carol.

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TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 11/4/09	265	353	2 TVO	Creatures of the Cork Forest		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Relief of Belsen		Human Edge Three generations.		
	211	331	3 GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Bones		Glee		Melrose Place "Gower"		News Final
	215	343	4 OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6 CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dragons' Den (HDTV) (N)		The Tudors (N) (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7 CITY	Law & Order: Special Victims		Mercy (HDTV) (N)		Modern Family	Cougar Town	The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	212	313	8 CTV	etalk	Hollywood	America's Next Top Model (N)		Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		CTV News
	218	345	11 CHCH	*The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle* ★ (2000, Comedy)				*The Good Shepherd* ★★ (2006, Drama) Matt Damon.				News at 11 (N)
	137	763	13 TFO	Panorama		Forever Lenine		*Deux anges* (2003, Drame) Siavoush Lashgari.			Villages	Passions
	-	-	14 -	Family Guy	The Office	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Great Land
	213	326	15 SUN	The Insider (N)	George Lopez	*The Fast and the Furious* ★★ (2001, Action) Vin Diesel.				The Insider	Hitchcock Pres	Becker
	-	387	16 CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (N)		CSI: NY (HDTV) (N)		News 4 at 11
	-	385	17 NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Mercy (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order: SVU		The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	-	386	18 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Hank (N)	The Middle (N)	Modern Family	Cougar Town	(10:01) Eastwick (N)		News
	219	346	20 ACH-B	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Hank (N)	The Middle (N)	The Vampire Diaries		(10:01) Eastwick (N)		A News
	-	-	28 FOX	Judge Judy (N)	MLB Baseball World Series, Game 6 -- Philadelphia Phillies at New York Yankees.						Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61 PBS	News-Lehrer	Wait for God	Bill Cosby: The Mark Twain Prize 2009			The People V. Leo Frank (N) (DVS)			Business Rpt.
	297	652	330 WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (N)		The Vampire Diaries		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331 SBK	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Law & Order: SVU		WBZ News (N)	What's-Store	The Office	Name Is Earl	Frasier
	298	653	332 TLA	The Tyra Show (N)		According-Jim	Family Guy	KTLA News	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Next Model
news	502	390	26 NW	Connect Today's biggest stories. (N)				CBC News: The National		Planet Earth "Deserts"		National
	500	500	33 CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79 CNB	Kudlow Report		As Seen on TV		American Greed		American Greed		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22 net	MLB Pregame	MLB Baseball World Series, Game 6: Philadelphia Phillies at New York Yankees. (HDTV) (Live)							
	400	400	30 TSN	That's Hockey!	Over the Bolts	NHL Pregame	NHL Hockey Calgary Flames at Dallas Stars. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre
	411	457	58 OLN	Ghost Hunters		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Survivorman		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	81 SC	Pass Time	NASCAR Hub	Amer. Thunder	Pinks Outtakes	Pass Time	Pass Time	Wrecked	Wrecked	Pass Time
family	551	542	25 YTV	Drake & Josh	That's-Weird	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
	554	544	45 TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	556	540	51 FAM	Sonny Chance	Zack & Cody	Overruled!	Han. Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School	Cory in House	That's-Raven
cable variety	602	567	27 W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Yourself Sexy	Chef Worthy	Fearl-Kitchen	Supersize-Skin
	570	580	29 MM	One Tree Hill		My Date With...	Video on Trial	America's Best Dance Crew		Degrassi: TNG	Degrassi: TNG	One Tree Hill
	615	520	31 A&E	Criminal Minds "Lucky"		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Manhunters
	700	800	35 TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Professione Fantasma (Italian).		Professione Fantasma (Italian).		George Lopez	George Lopez	George Lopez
	571	581	36 MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Gene Simmons Family Jewels		The Daily Fix
	575	583	38 CMT	Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Due South
	616	521	39 SHO	The Outer Limits		The Guard "Waheguru"		Found.	Paradise Falls	Bones (HDTV)		NCIS
	620	523	40 BVO	The Achievers	Bravo!Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan File	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar "White Collar Pilot"		
	601	562	41 SLC	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Nearly Dead	Nearly Dead	Nearly Dead	Newlywed	In Laws	In Laws	ET Canada
	522	506	43 HIS	Hitler's Stealth Fighter		Life After People		Ice Road Truckers		Hitler's Stealth Fighter		Outlaw Bikers
	625	548	44 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Michael	RENO 911!	Daily Show
	600	564	46 H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Realtor	Intervention	Property Virgin	Unsellable	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47 TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Law & Order: SVU		The Office	The Office	*Bad News Bears* ★★ (2005, Comedy)		
	576	582	49 BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*A Man Apart* ★ (2003, Crime Drama) Vin Diesel.				First In	First In	Mo'Nique
	627	528	50 SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager "Q2"		Torchwood		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		Star Trek
	581	566	52 MTV	The Hills	After	Disaster Date	Peak Season	The Hills	The City	The City	After	MTV Live
	618	524	54 TROP	King	King	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	King	King
	603	561	56 FOOD	Ricardo	Fresh-Anna	Challenge (N)		Iron Chef America		Chopped (N)		Chef School
	261	394	60 V	Murder, She Wrote		Keeping Up	Foot in Grave	Jeeves and Wooster		Unscripted (N)	Driven-Vision	Poltergeist
	621	527	63 STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (N)		TMZ
	553	546	65 TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Babar	Big & Small	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101 TVA	Poule-oeufs or	Occupation	Destinées "Vertige" (N) (SC)		Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	126	730	102 RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Artisans du changement (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249 VIVA	Cold Case		Missing		The Closer "Flashpoint"		Cold Case		Mediums
	300	601	301 M1	(7:15) *A No-Hit, No-Run Summer* ★★ (2008)				*My Bloody Valentine* ★★ (2009, Horror) Jensen Ackles.				Lock 'n Load
	305	612	306 PIX	(7:15) *Replikator* ★ (1994, Science Fiction)				*Prince of Darkness* ★★ (1987, Horror)			(10:45) *Palmer's Bones*	

critics' corner

Dog the Bounty Hunter
In this episode, Duane "Dog" Chapman has his heart squeezed by his latest target: Mona Lisa. No, he's not trying to pilfer that painting of the mysteriously smiling lady. Dog's Mona Lisa is a young woman whose fast and loose lifestyle has gotten her into some hot water. Since his own daughter Barbara — who shares Mona's birthday — died in a high-speed car accident, Dog is determined not to let Mona ruin her life. 5 PM on OLN

Mercy
You don't need the Wizard of Oz or a bottle of tequila to give you courage. For Veronica (Taylor Schilling), it's a brave cancer patient who inspires her to face her fear of telling her husband (Diego Klattenhoff) about her affair with Dr. Sands (James Tupper). Another patient has Sonia (Jaime Lee Kirchner) rethinking her arm's-length approach to dating just as her guy (Charlie Semine) disappears in the new episode "The Last Thing I Said Was." 8 PM on NBC CITY

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Near face-planting experience
Mariah Carey almost went face-first into Jay Leno's stage during a taping of his show on Monday night, popeater.com reports. As Carey was making her way onto the stage, she tripped up and nearly fell forward. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Rihanna breaks her silence

CENTRE OF THE CIRCUS Months after being attacked by ex-boyfriend Chris Brown, Rihanna is speaking out about her healing process in December issue of Glamour magazine, people.com reports.

"My story was broadcast all over the world for people to see," she says. "They have followed every step of my recovery.

"The positive thing that has come out of my situation is that people can learn from that. I want to give as much insight as I can to young women, because I feel like I represent a voice that really isn't heard. Now I can help speak for those women."

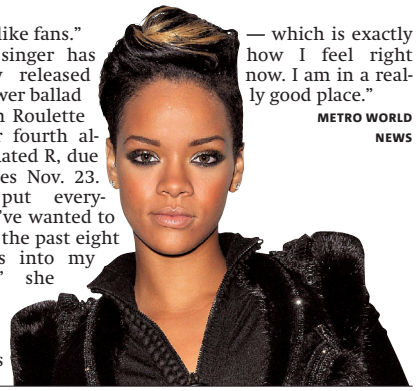
Named Glamour's 2009 Woman of the Year, Rihanna, 21, will be honoured in a special ceremony at New York's Carnegie Hall on Monday. In addition to opening up about her difficult year, the singer — and fashionista — will also appear in a pictorial spread.

As for the massive scrutiny following the February 2009 attack, Rihanna says, "I went to sleep as Rihanna and woke up as Britney Spears. That was the level of media chaos that happened the next day."

And, she says, the past nine months have been a source of growth and strength. "I am stronger, wiser and more aware. You don't realize how much your decisions affect people you don't even know, like fans."

The singer has already released the power ballad Russian Roulette off her fourth album, Rated R, due in stores Nov. 23. "I've put everything I've wanted to say for the past eight months into my music," she says. "(It's) super fearless — which is exactly how I feel right now. I am in a really good place."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Celebrity tweets

Demi Moore likes to brag and John Favreau has a confession to make.

• @mrskutcher
My husband is gorgeous inside & out! Just wanted 2 express my awe at how lucky I feel 2 be with this man

• @John_Favreau
Is anyone else going through their kids' trick or treat candy after they fell asleep?

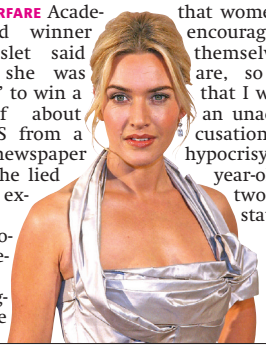
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Winslet gets last laugh

ETHICAL WARFARE Academy Award winner Kate Winslet said yesterday she was "delighted" to win a payout of about $40,000 US from a British newspaper that said she lied about her exercise regime, people.com reports.

"I strongly believe that women should be encouraged to accept themselves as they are, so to suggest that I was lying was an unacceptable accusation of hypocrisy," the 33-year-old mother of two said in a statement.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Barton centre of bar brawl?

YOU TALKING TO ME?! Mischa Barton sparked a fight at a Halloween party, female-first.co.uk reports.

The former O.C. star was furious after a reveller threw a drink over her at New York's Park Bar on Saturday after she accidentally stepped on his foot, throwing her own beverage at the unnamed partygoer in retaliation.

The incident took an ugly turn when the actress — who was dressed as a peacock — returned to her table and told her friends, who rushed to confront the man.

A source told Radar Online: "Within a few minutes one of her male friends came over to confront the guy and asked him to step outside. Mischa's friend left but then he kept coming back every few minutes to complain."

The two men then allegedly fought on the dance floor before two bouncers came and threw out the instigator — who had "a gash to his head and his knee was all cut up."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Fame? No thanks

BUT THE MONEY'S NICE Kristen Stewart isn't interested in the spotlight. "I don't want to be a movie star like Angelina Jolie," The Twilight star tells Blackbook magazine. "Nothing about being a celebrity is desirable. I'm an actor. It's bizarre to me that everybody's so obsessive."

METRO WORLD NEWS

She likes big butts and she cannot lie

YOU TELL 'EM, SISTER!! The former Sports Illustrated cover girl is back in modeling shape — but not because she wants to retake the catwalk. Tyra Banks has regained control of her eating habits, people.com reports.

On The Tyra Show airing today, the host reveals her longtime struggle with chronic stomachaches. "I would get major attacks," Banks, 35, says. "I would be in bed for days, it was so painful."

Thanks to the help of nutritionist Heather Bauer, Banks re-evaluated her eating habits by keeping a food diary. "I switched up my unhealthy eating habits for healthier eating habits, and I haven't had a tummy attack since December '08," she says.Banks is now revealing how she lost almost 30 lbs. since her famous "Kiss my fat ass" incident in early 2007.

But don't worry, Banks assures fans that she hasn't turned her back on the curvy club. "I feel good about my curves and my imperfections — my booty, my boobs, my thighs — I embrace it all," she says. "Now I really can say ... kiss my fat — and still fat — ass."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

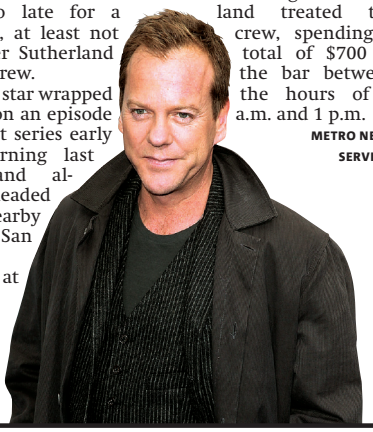
Kiefer drinking at 7 a.m.?

NO FIGHTS REPORTED It's never to late for a nightcap, at least not for Kiefer Sutherland and his crew.

The 24 star wrapped filming on an episode of the hit series early one morning last week and allegedly headed to a nearby bar in San Pedro, Calif. — at 7 a.m.

TMZ alleges Sutherland treated the crew, spending a total of $700 at the bar between the hours of 7 a.m. and 1 p.m.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Paris' phone panic attack

OMFG Paris Hilton got quite a scare after leaving a Halloween party when her cell phone was tossed from her limo while driving through Hollywood.

"She was staggering down the street, up and down," a source tells Page Six. "She was mad," another source says.

METRO WORLD NEWS

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Today Showers 40% 5°/ 1°
Thursday Showers 60% 7° / -4°
Friday Sunny 4°/ 3°

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Take Five

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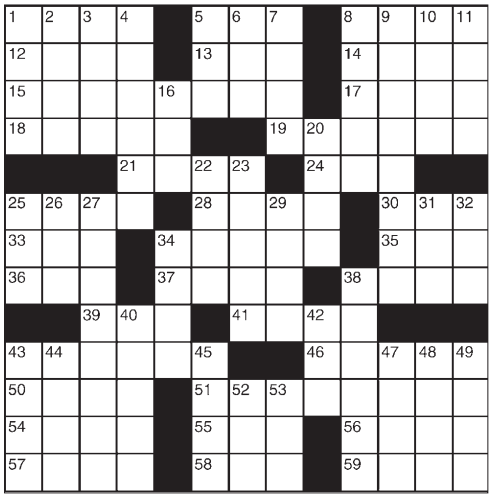


ACROSS

1 Foolish sort
5 Satchel
8 "Without delay" acronym
12 A Katzenjammer kid
13 Commotion
14 NASA's "Forget it"
15 "Oh, really?"
17 PC picture
18 Mar
19 Harm
21 Peruse
24 Toothpaste type
25 Bit of banter
28 Ark builder
30 Caustic solution
33 Past
34 Line dance?
35 Wet wriggler
36 Feathery accessory
37 "— Karenina"
38 Leading man?
39 Siesta
41 Geological periods
43 Acts the moocher
46 Shelter from the sun
50 Astrologer's bear
51 Barely mediocre
54 Laugh-a-minute
55 St.
56 Passenger Parks
57 Facility
58 Skillet
59 Spuds' buds

DOWN

1 Anything but that
2 Nasty stinger
3 Grooving on
4 Unisex garb
5 Cudgel
6 Billboards
7 Suitable
8 Japanese cartooning style
9 Commonly named
10 Highly excited
11 Southern bread
16 Hearty brew
20 Mideast VIP
22 Shortly
23 "Death Be Not Proud" poet
25 Poke
26 "I" strain
27 Unspecified people
29 Culture medium
31 Verily
32 46-Across provider
34 Feature of a Batsuit
38 Off the boat
40 Marble type
42 Donkey
43 Remedy
44 Met melody
45 Break suddenly
47 "Hi, sailor"
48 Teaspoonful, at times
49 Greek vowels
52 Eggs
53 X rating?

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

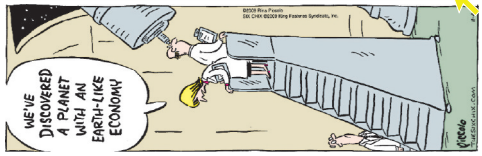
3				5				4
8	7						5	2
			6		2			
	9			1			4	8
		4				9		
2	3			8			1	
			9		4			
6	5						7	9
9				3				6

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

8	1	4	7	2	5	9	3	6
2	9	7	4	3	6	1	5	8
5	6	3	1	8	9	4	2	7
4	7	1	2	5	8	3	6	9
9	2	6	3	1	4	8	7	5
3	5	8	9	6	7	2	1	4
6	3	5	8	9	1	7	4	2
7	8	2	5	4	3	6	9	1
1	4	9	6	7	2	5	8	3

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day

Fresh Tomato Pasta Toss

INGREDIENTS:

3 lbs (1.5 kg) ripe fresh tomatoes
1 package (16 oz/454 g) uncooked tube pasta
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 tbsp (15 mL) canola oil
1 tsp (5 mL) dried parsley flakes
1 tsp (5 mL) dried basil
3/4 tsp (4 mL) dried oregano
1 tsp (5 mL) salt
1/4 tsp (1 mL) sugar
1/8 tsp (0.5 mL) pepper
1/4 cup (50 mL) whipping cream
1/4 cup (50 mL) shredded Parmesan cheese

METHOD:

1. To remove peels from tomatoes, fill large pot with water and bring to boil. Place tomatoes, one at time, in boiling water 30 seconds. Immediately plunge in ice water. Peel skins with sharp paring knife and discard. Chop pulp; set aside.

2. Cook pasta according to package directions. In large skillet, cook garlic in oil over medium heat until golden. Add parsley, basil, oregano, salt, sugar, pepper and reserved tomato pulp; mix well. Bring to boil; reduce heat. Add cream; heat through.

3. Drain pasta and transfer to serving bowl. Pour tomato sauce over pasta and toss to coat. Sprinkle with cheese.

SERVES 8

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
If someone tells you there is something you cannot have you will make every effort to get it. But could it be they are hoping you will react this way?

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
After today you won't be under so much pressure on the work front, but don't use that as an excuse to lower your standards.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
Don't be too surprised if people you thought were on your side pick holes in what you say and do today.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Current events may wear you down and make you discouraged today, but that is not an excuse to give up on something.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Something you thought you understood yesterday will confuse you today, but don't be down about it.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
Certain people may be intensely irritating but you must not let them see that they are getting under your skin.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Take care that your feelings don't sweep you away over the next 24 hours. You can't rescue everyone.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
You will get a well deserved rest from a family or relationship problem now that Neptune is turning direct again.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Your confidence will fade a bit today as you begin to wonder if maybe you have taken on too much.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Don't be so desperate to improve your financial position that you start taking the kind of risks that could end in disaster.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Cosmic activity in and around your birth sign warns it is time to stop trying to be the biggest and the best in everything you do.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Be under no illusions about what is important in your life and what is not – and what you stand to lose if you get them mixed up.

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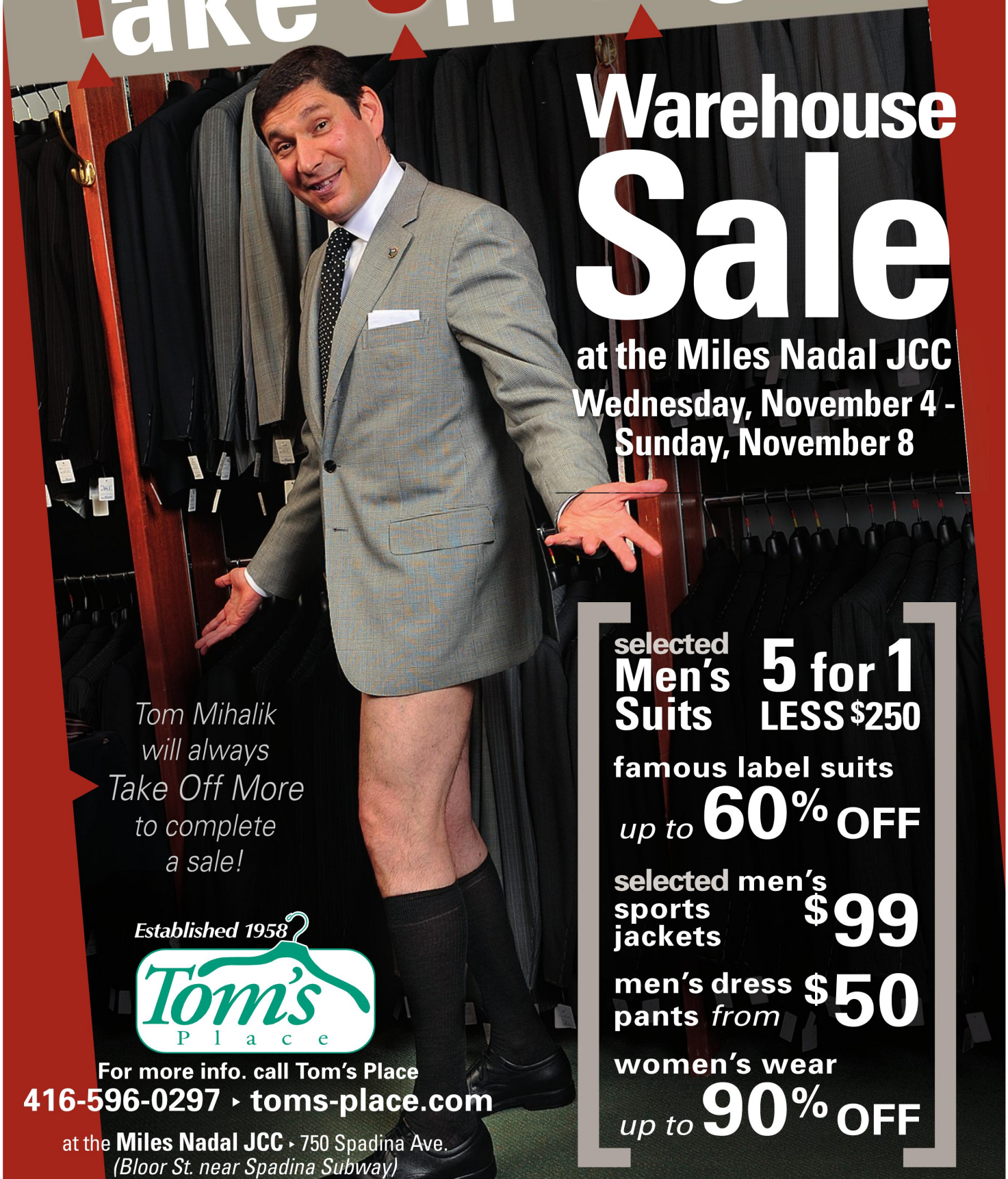
Take Off More



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- Standard Bluetooth® hands-free cell phone capability*

HWY: 5.8 L/100KM 49 MPG CITY: 8.3 L/100KM 34 MPG

Crash Test Rating NHTSA - Frontal impacts◊

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Plus a prepaid VISA CARD

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- Standard 4-wheel disc brakes and ABS
- Standard Bluetooth® hands-free cell phone capability*

HWY: 5.8 L/100KM 49 MPG CITY: 8.3 L/100KM 34 MPG

SX MODEL SHOWN

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Plus a prepaid VISA CARD

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Crash Test Rating NHTSA - Frontal impacts

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